



2010

## Bridgewater Magazine, Volume 20, Number 2, Summer 2010

Bridgewater State University

---

### Recommended Citation

Bridgewater State University (2010). *Bridgewater Magazine*, Vol. 20, No. 2. Retrieved from [http://vc.bridgew.edu/br\\_mag/13](http://vc.bridgew.edu/br_mag/13)

This item is available as part of Virtual Commons, the open-access institutional repository of Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

# Bridgewater

SUMMER 2010  
VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 2



## The University Moment



# StudentSpotlight



## No easy gig

**Gary Petersen knows that doing stand-up comedy is hard work ... but it's paying off**

**HE'S TAKEN HIS LUMPS** on the local comedy circuit, but now Gary Petersen is making his mark. In comedy shows around New England, as well as at Yuk Yuk's Laugh-off in Toronto and auditions for the Montreal Comedy Festival and The Great American Comedy Festival, this communications major is building a career for himself telling jokes. Hitting the stage hundreds of times per year, he says is all part of "keeping the show going."


### **How did you get started?**

I started in high school hosting a variety show and just kind of got addicted to live performance and thought I was amazing. I went to Boston to a place called the Comedy Vault to try to figure it out. I was just going to make it right then and there as soon as I showed up. And I bombed horribly. I did that for two years, just persistent bombing, and I learned how to bomb well and rewrote and just worked harder.

### **Have you settled on a particular style of comedy?**

I love the truth in comedy. I do love absurdist stuff that doesn't make any sense. But you look at Carlin, Richard Pryor, Jerry Seinfeld – there's a rigid logic to every joke ... you see these truisms ... The real, to me, is what I chase after in my writing and what bits I form. Truth in comedy is kind of interesting. They're jokes, but they're based on real things. I always try to chase the honesty and the situation.

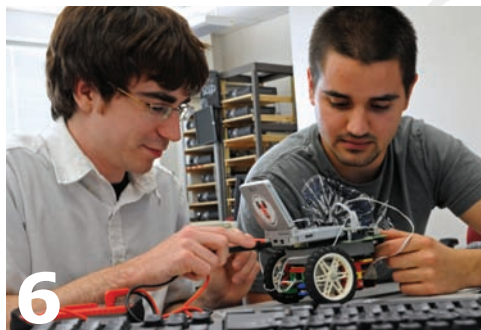
### **Do you aspire to be a career comic?**

It's such a gamble. There are no guarantees in show biz, it's not about talent or skill... I've seen people who have been around 17 years who haven't gotten their break. It's almost like baseball. It's not the guy who put his time in – it's the numbers that make sense. It's like how good you can be right now. It's up to me to work as hard as I can to get there. 

*To find out where Gary is appearing, log on to [www.GaryPetersenComedy.com](http://www.GaryPetersenComedy.com) or join his Facebook group, The Gary Petersen Comedy Show Locator.*

*(Interview by John J. Winters)*





## FEATURES

### 2 WHAT'S IN A NAME?

If the name is Bridgewater State University, it's a long history of excellence and a future rife with exciting possibilities.

### 6 A BOLD AGENDA: THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

New schools help to maximize the richness of teaching and learning / Programs and course work enhance leadership skills / Readiness Centers assist region's Pre-K-12 educators in advancing student learning / New center increases international awareness and opportunities / Social justice and sustainable practices initiatives thrive on campus

### 20 NEW SCHOOLS, NEW LEADERS

Deans named to take the helm at Bridgewater's two new schools.

### 22 WORTH THE STRUGGLE

Innovative state program helped single mother balance studies and family.

### 24 HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

Renovated Swenson Field scores high with student athletes and fans alike.

### 26 JOINING THE CLUB

Professor's book studies risky nightlife habits of white, wealthy young people.

### 28 HELP. HOPE. HAITI.

The campus community joins forces to help the earthquake-ravaged nation.

### 32 COMPASSION IN ACTION

International alumna gains as much as she gives working at school for the blind.

### 34 NOT THE RETIRING TYPE

A passion for teaching and a thirst for knowledge have defined this emeritus professor's career – and his retirement.

### 36 A CAMPAIGN FOR EXCELLENCE

Bridgewater's capital campaign is more than halfway toward its goal.

## DEPARTMENTS

### 16 BRIDGEWATER NEWS

### 38 ALUMNI NEWS

### 48 PARTING SHOT

#### ON THE COVER

Katie Wilber, '11, and Iolando Spinola, '11, celebrate Bridgewater's university status after returning from the July 28 Statehouse ceremony marking the official name change. Photo by Karen Callan.

#### Editorial Board

Bryan M. Baldwin  
Karen A. Booth  
Eva T. Gaffney, G'01  
Robert W. Matheson Jr., '08  
Marie C. Murphy, '86  
John J. Winters

#### Photography

Karen D. Callan  
Kindra Clineff  
Robert W. Matheson Jr., '08  
David K. Wilson, '71  
John J. Winters

#### Design

Karen D. Callan

**Bridgewater** keeps alumni, faculty, students and their families, staff and friends of Bridgewater State University informed about the campus community and its impact on the region.

This university magazine is written, designed and edited by the Office of Institutional Communications with the needs of its varied audiences at heart and in mind.


For up-to-date information on university news, activities and events, and to view past issues of *Bridgewater*, visit [www.bridgew.edu](http://www.bridgew.edu).

#### Correspondence

Mail to:  
*Bridgewater*  
Office of Institutional Communications  
Bridgewater State University  
Bridgewater, MA 02325

508.531.1335

E-mail class notes to:  
[cregan@bridgew.edu](mailto:cregan@bridgew.edu)

 Visit [www.bridgew.edu/magazine](http://www.bridgew.edu/magazine) to learn more about the people and programs featured in that article.





# BRIDGEWATER

---

## STATE UNIVERSITY

---

**1840:**

**BRIDGEWATER NORMAL SCHOOL**

a noble experiment requiring the courage of such educational giants as Horace Mann

**Fast forward 170 years:**

**BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE**

a comprehensive liberal arts institution deeply woven into the fabric of Southeastern Massachusetts

**July 28, 2010:**

**BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY**

a recognized leader within the commonwealth's newly created state university system



## The dawn of

President Dana Mohler-Faria talks about what university status means for students, the institution and the community-at-large. At the same time, he reflects on the evolution of the institution's strategic plan, a blueprint that builds on a foundation of excellence that stretches back to 1840.





# Bridgewater State University: a rallying moment for a bold agenda

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

**What does the name change from college to university mean to Bridgewater?**

University status is the achievement of a long-term goal that was initiated decades ago. There is a sense that university status means dramatic change, but the simple truth is, achieving university status means that now Bridgewater has been recognized, officially, for who we are and what we have been doing for a very long time. Bridgewater's tradition of excellence is rooted in a rich history, tightly woven into the very fabric of public education, not only in the commonwealth but also in the nation.

**What kind of opportunities will university status open up for Bridgewater State University?**

I do believe university status will introduce exciting opportunities at the institution. I think it's going to give us better opportunities to enhance our already vibrant international programs around the world. I think it will open up grant possibilities and attract greater resources to our campus.

Graduate education is another good example. University status brings legitimacy and a greater sense of prestige to our programs. It's the ultimate stamp of approval, really



recognizing the depth and breadth of our graduate programs and the level of excellence at which we operate. This will definitely create some opportunities.

**The name “university” connotes a certain prestige. Will this prestige be of benefit to our students?**

Yes. The prestige of attending Bridgewater State University does benefit students, and it will give them a more of an edge when they compete in the marketplace. Similarly, the status change to university will enable our institution to attract a broader range of students.

**There is a perception that university means big. Does Bridgewater have any plans to increase enrollment in any significant way?**

No. It is a misperception that university status correlates to size. That’s simply not so. Some universities are less than half the size of Bridgewater. University has nothing to do with growth and size. It really has to do with mission class and with the level and quality of an institution. Our planned growth at Bridgewater will remain the same.

**Some people have expressed concern that university status will translate into additional costs for our students. Is this true?**

No. From the beginning of this process, we have indicated that there are no additional costs to our students associated with the change from college to university. And that’s still true. University status will not impact tuition or fees.

**How about admissions standards?**

The admissions requirements will remain the same. There has been some discussion about raising the standards for admission to Bridgewater, but these discussions have nothing to do with university status.

**What is the core difference between the University of Massachusetts system and the state university system?**

The difference is easily discernable. The University of Massachusetts system is research focused. It includes professional schools – medical and law. It is not a regional system; the University of Massachusetts system attracts students from around the world. The state universities – Bridgewater included – are regional, comprehensive

institutions. Bridgewater’s focus will remain focused on Southeastern Massachusetts.

**Bridgewater faculty, students, and in particular, alumni, feel that Bridgewater has what I’ll call a sense of “family.” Bridgewater is seen as a “personal” institution, an institution that cares for its constituents. There may be some concern out there that university status might change all that. How would you respond?**

Bridgewater has a long and rich history. We have always fostered a sense of community on campus, and we intend not only to continue to foster community, but to increase the level of focus on community. It is one of Bridgewater’s cherished and enduring hallmarks.

**Will university status open up any opportunities for programmatic changes?**

I think we will have some opportunity for program changes and collaborations, but our intention is to continue academic development as we have identified it prior to our name change. That said, if there are ways to enhance academic development as a result of university status we will certainly explore these.

**This elevated status from college to university is a monumental moment in time for our institution. What do you see when you reflect on Bridgewater’s storied past?**

I guess I think back to Horace Mann and his vision and to the initial stages of Bridgewater as a normal school and the critical role we played in the history of educational reform in the commonwealth. I think back to its evolution as a state teachers college and then to a state college. Each change reflects growth – not only academic excellence and impact in the region, but also in the number of students able to afford higher education as a direct result of our commitment to accessibility.

The change to university is a natural evolution. The difference today, however, as opposed to other moments in our history, is that Bridgewater State College had evolved into a university long before this day – long before its official designation as university. I can speak on behalf of all our constituents – we are very happy to be here.

# The final frontier

One year after the founding of Bridgewater Normal School in 1840, the first wagon train of East Coast pioneers set off for California; the journey took six months. On July 28, 2010, pioneers of another sort set out from the grounds of Bridgewater State College for a one-hour coach ride to the state's capital to celebrate the institution's elevation to university status. These intrepid travelers – faculty, students, alumni, staff, administrators, supporters and friends of Bridgewater – were excited to be part of this historic moment.

*"After all this hard work and anticipation, the ride to Boston on this historic day and the ceremony were so exciting that the whole day felt like a brief dream. I would not have missed it for anything!"*

–Dr. Ahmed M. Abdelal, assistant professor, special education and communication disorders

*"I feel as if I was on the merry-go-round of the century! To finally achieve what the college has been seeking for so long.... Everyone on the bus knew we were going someplace very special, somewhere we've never been before. It was such a warm and wonderful, wonderful moment."*

–Dr. Marilyn White Barry, '58, dean emerita and Leadership Donor

*"As students, we may assume that this change is only natural. But at the ceremony, I was able to see a glimpse of the tireless perseverance and dedication by many individuals, over the course of years and even decades, that transformed this dream into a reality; it is truly inspiring. I felt honored and thankful to be able to partake in the historic moment of Bridgewater State College becoming Bridgewater State University."*

–Katie Wilber, Class of 2011




## What does university status mean for Bridgewater's overall strategic direction?

This past year, our Board of Trustees approved a comprehensive strategic planning plan focused on five overarching goals:

1. To maximize the intensity, diversity and richness of teaching and learning relationships forged between faculty, students and members of the broader community.
2. To promote a rigorous and dynamic institutional environment focused on developing and enhancing leadership skills.
3. To expand the institution's ability to foster the cultural, scientific, economic and intellectual capacity of South-eastern Massachusetts.
4. To increase global and cultural awareness and encourage a diversity of perspectives on campus and in the region.
5. And to serve as an agent of social justice and sustainable practices, instilling in all members of the community a deeper understanding of the impact they each have on the greater good and our world.

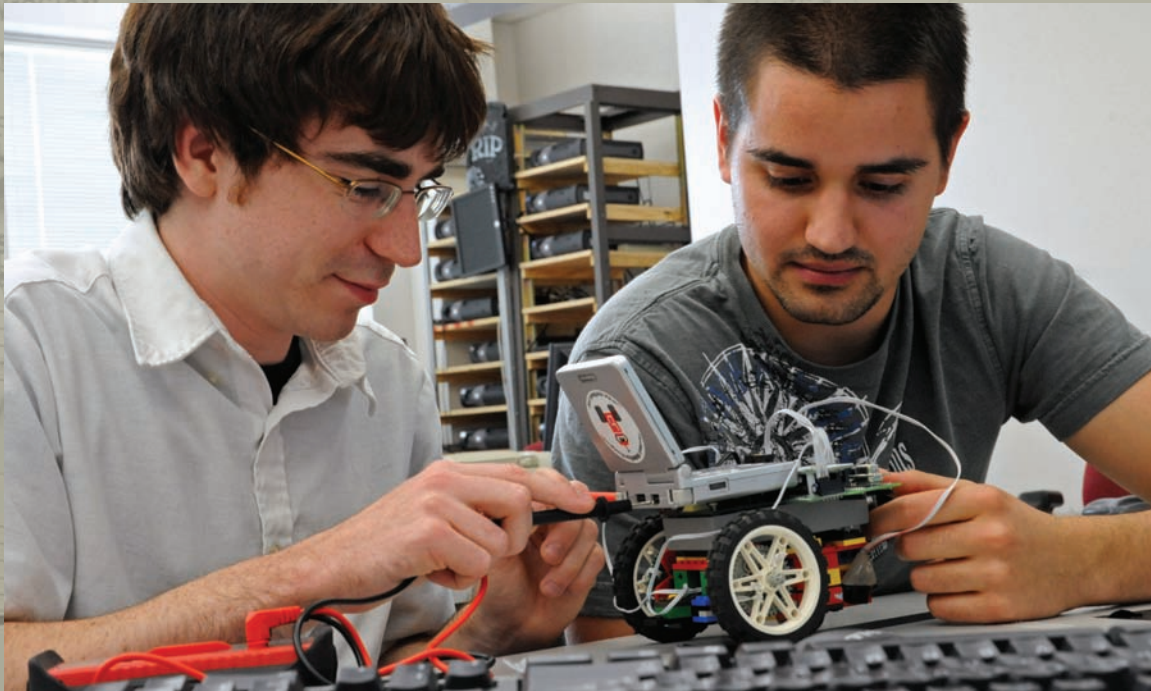
We're already making tremendous progress on each of these fronts, and university status will help to rally all members of the Bridgewater family around a common set of goals.

**For you, personally, as a sitting president during this historic moment of transformation as Bridgewater State College becomes Bridgewater State University, how do you feel?**

In its 170-year history, few sitting presidents have had the good fortune to experience such a moment of all-encompassing transformation and optimism. For me, personally, I feel privileged and honored to be part of this historic event. Despite economic challenges, this has been a banner year for public higher education in the commonwealth. Over the course of just a few months, Massachusetts founded its very first public law school AND a new state university system. In my nearly 40 years of service, I don't think I've ever been a part of something quite so exciting or validating. 



Maximize the intensity, diversity and richness of teaching and learning relationships forged between faculty, students and members of the broader community.



## Bridgewater opens two new schools

BY EVA T. GAFFNEY, G'01

*"The flatter hierarchy that comes with the creation of the new schools means greater administrative responsiveness and, as a result, the academic departments stand to become stronger quicker, which is a benefit to students."*

*—Provost Howard London*

One of the most significant changes in the academic structure of Bridgewater in five decades occurred July 1 when the university opened two new schools.

After several years of exploration, discussion and deliberation, two new schools were created from the 20 academic departments that comprised the School of Arts and Sciences. The new schools are Humanities and Social Sciences and Science and Mathematics.

Under the reorganization, Humanities and Social Sciences houses 14 academic departments and Science and Mathematics, six. The schools join three others at Bridgewater – Graduate Studies, Business, and Education and Allied Studies.

According to Provost Howard London, the shift to two smaller-scale schools is a healthy response to the continued growth and complexity of the university, and improves responsiveness to the academic needs of students and faculty alike.

"Arts and Sciences was very large," said Dr. London, who has a unique vantage point because he served as dean of the school for 11 years prior to being named provost. "The flatter hierarchy that comes with the creation of the new schools means greater administrative responsiveness and, as a result, the academic departments stand to become stronger quicker, which is a benefit to students."





## **SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (5,115 students)**

Anthropology	Music
Art	Philosophy
Communication Studies	Political Science
Criminal Justice	Psychology
English	Social Work
Foreign Languages	Sociology
History	Theater and Dance

## **SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS (1,020 students)**

Biology	Mathematics and
Chemistry	Computer Science
Earth Sciences	Physics
Geography	

## **SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED STUDIES (2,986 students)**

Counselor Education
Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Movement Arts, Health Promotion and Leisure Studies
Secondary Education and Professional Programs
Special Education and Communication Disorders

## **SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1,654 students)**

Accounting and Finance	Economics
Aviation Science	Management

*(Based on fall 2009 enrollments)*

The move also dovetails nicely with the opening of the Science and Mathematics Center. Construction of two new sections of the facility will be completed and ready for occupancy at the start of the 2011-2012 academic year during which demolition and reconstruction of the existing Conant Science Building take place. That third and final section of the center will open the following September.

Michael Young, associate provost and a member of the New Schools Planning Committee, said the move to a School of Science and Mathematics will make Bridgewater more competitive for prospective students and recruiting quality faculty within those majors. Dr. Young also chaired the search committee for the dean of science and mathematics.

"The facility should be exciting – symbolically and physically," he said, adding the new school stands to enhance education for a number of students who would not have previously considered science and math.

A unified School of Science and Mathematics is also better positioned to seek funds available for related initiatives from sources such as the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Education, Environmental Protection Agency, in addition to various granting sources in the commonwealth.

Dr. London said the teaching aspect of Bridgewater remains critical and it is not the intention to shift the mission of

**Division of the School of Arts and Sciences into two new schools allows for increased focus and specialization across the curriculum, benefiting students with such diverse interests as robotics (left) and glass work.**

the institution from teaching to research with the specialized schools. In fact, he said he sees all Bridgewater students "enhancing their scientific literacy" with the creation of the schools.

As the days of the School of Arts and Sciences continued to wane, Dr. London anticipated an opportunity for the advancement of interdisciplinary studies within and among the new schools. "The formation of intellectual bridges and the melding of academic disciplines reflect the evolution of the modern world, and will better prepare our students for it," he said.

A number of the university's largest majors in terms of enrollments are housed within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences as 47 percent of the student population, representing 5,115 students, are enrolled in its majors such as psychology, communication studies and history.

"We have very strong programs in that school and our goal is to further strengthen them," Dr. London said. ■



Promote a rigorous and dynamic institutional environment focused on developing and enhancing leadership skills.

## Service leadership skills guided by inspiration

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

Effective leadership stimulates action, certainly a worthy goal; inspired leadership ignites a sense of purpose, taking the accomplishment of that worthy goal to a higher level.

Dr. David Ostroth, vice president of student affairs at Bridgewater, is focused on helping the university to develop and enhance programs that take participants to that next level and cultivate inspired leadership skills.

Acknowledging the difficulty of articulating any definitive description of leadership, Dr. Ostroth talked about “the creative thinker who takes the group where it needs to go ... someone who influences the direction of a project and gives others a sense of intrinsic reward.

“In business or the military, leadership might be thought of as rising to a higher level of authority to move the organization in a certain direction,” he said. “Service leadership, on the other hand, is not so much about exercising authority, but rather it is about inspiring others to serve.”

As in most things in life, context counts – the who, what, why and where of it all. An inspired leader takes it all in, and uses all of his or her skills to influence the situation toward a positive conclusion.

The university, says Dr. Ostroth, is eclectic when it comes to defining leadership. “It’s a set of learning, knowledge, skills and practice. It’s a performing art, and it’s different in different groups and for different leaders. It’s all about developing personal ways of thinking and doing, finding a style that works for that individual,” he said. “Half of being a leader is thinking of yourself as a leader.”

Understanding the importance of educating the leaders of tomorrow – developing those critical thinkers, inspiring proactive doers who lead not only with skill, but also with integrity – the university offers students a number of opportunities to enhance their leadership skills, through initiatives like residential learning communities and Community Service Center projects, as well as the FAM for Change mentoring program, to name a few.

Service learning is another. Dr. Jonathan White, associate professor of sociology and service-learning faculty associate, said, “A thoughtful service component in a course helps bring to life what the students are studying,” and that, he emphasizes, is critical to each student’s visceral understanding of service leadership.

The Student Leadership Institute, on the other hand, uses an online course model and offers students a combination of strategies including online tutorials, one-on-one coaching sessions, and self-directed, hands-on projects that demonstrate leadership ability.

Cindy Kane, director of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership and coordinator of the Student Leadership Institute, said that “helps students learn how to integrate their personal goals with an organization’s goals to the benefit of both.” ■

*“In business or the military, leadership might be thought of as rising to a higher level of authority to move the organization in a certain direction. Service leadership, on the other hand, is not so much about exercising authority, but rather it is about inspiring others to serve.”*

*—Dr. David Ostroth  
vice president of student affairs*





**Shaun Williams, '10, (right), who led the way in bringing to campus inspirational speaker Spencer West, prepares to introduce him to the audience.**



**Robert Harrington, '12, helps create publicity posters with Victoria Wallant, '13, (left), and Jillian Lewis, '13.**

## Learning communities speak to students' ideals

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

"Residential learning communities connect students with other students who hold like-minded goals and values," said Justin McCauley, a resident director in the Office of Residence Life and Housing. "It's about making strong connections with others in the group and with faculty."

At Bridgewater, first-year students can choose either a service-based or honors residential learning community, both housed in Woodward Hall. Two resident assistants in each community coordinate activities and offer guidance.

Shaun Williams, '10, embraces his leadership position as RA for the residential service-based learning community.

"I think it's the job of leaders to inspire greatness from those around them," said Shaun, citing the example of a student who, inspired to participate in tent city, went on to join the Social Justice League and is committed to making a difference in other people's lives.

Last year, Robert Harrington, '12, joined the residential honors learning community as a first-year student. This year, he rose to the leadership role of resident assistant.

"When Rob joined the community he was a quiet, unassuming young man," said Mr. McCauley. "He had the courage to apply for the RA position, has applied all the skills he learned as a community member, and is now coordinator for the honors programming, supervising four assistants."

Robert says, "Through my work with the Honors Program, I've learned how to manage and assist a group in making decisions and working together cohesively ... Working with my fellow students has transformed my view of leadership."

He went on to describe the leadership process as more collaborative than hierarchical, listening being a must-have quality of a true leader.

Mr. McCauley praised the RAs and their "willingness and confidence to step forward. It's wonderful to watch when students take that risk, step forward and inspire their peers." ■



Expand the institution's ability to foster the cultural, scientific, economic and intellectual capacity of Southeastern Massachusetts.



# At the ready

## Bridgewater operates region's first Readiness Center

BY EVA T. GAFFNEY, G'01

The preparation of educators has been the mission of the state university system in Massachusetts since the 1830s, when Horace Mann led a group of visionaries in creating institutions dedicated to professionalizing the art of teaching.

Bridgewater – the oldest permanently sited of such institutions – has been preparing educators since 1840. It makes sense, then, that Bridgewater, along with six other sister institutions, were awarded the rights by the state to establish regional Readiness Centers across Massachusetts.

According to the Executive Office of Education, the Readiness Centers are to become “multipurpose and collaborative hubs for providing professional development and other instructional services to educators and also targeted assistance to improve districts and schools.”

Toward that end, the Southeastern Massachusetts Readiness Center (SEMARC), with Dr. Anna Bradfield, dean of Bridgewater's School of Education and Allied Studies as its interim director, along with its series of partners and a 30-member Operating Committee, have, in its inaugural year, identified an ambitious agenda and begun implementation.

SEMARC, which serves school districts south of Route 128 through to Nantucket making it the largest of the six districts in the state, has identified collaboration as its primary goal early on among those regional stakeholders interested in advancing student learning across Pre-K through 16, said Dr. Bradfield.



## SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS READINESS CENTER PARTNERS

Connect – regional higher education consortium

Lighthouse Superintendents

Lighthouse Assistant Superintendents

Southeast Region Collaborative

Workforce Investment Boards

Brockton and New Bedford School Districts

## MASSACHUSETTS READINESS CENTERS

Northeast – Salem State University

Boston – Framingham State University

Central – Worcester and Framingham State Universities

Pioneer Valley – Westfield State University

Berkshires – Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Southeastern Massachusetts – Bridgewater State University

◀ Anita Kofton, '90, (left) an eighth-grade science teacher at Hanson Middle School, and her peers across the state stand to benefit from the services offered by Massachusetts Readiness Centers.

Inherent with collaborative attempts is the need to break down traditional silos of operation – be they geographic, programmatic, philosophic – for the most effective thinking and, in 2010, for the best use of resources. For example, English as Second or Other Language can be costly for smaller school districts while larger districts have resources that could be potentially shared.

“While building relationships within the collaborative, we need some sort of project to kick it off,” said Dr. Bradfield. So SEMARC decided that a common calendar for professional development of Pre-K-12 personnel – teachers, psychologists, school nurses, etc. – was a good start, pulling together the training in terms of people and their related needs, with each district taking on a different training theme and inviting everyone else to participate.

“We need to provide low-cost activities that provide value to people,” Dr. Bradfield said, especially in the first phase of the Readiness Center project, which was not funded.

SEMARC is providing an infrastructure for collaboration by organizing meetings and is a liaison among many constituent groups. Eventually, SEMARC plans to conduct needs assessments, collect and analyze data and develop corrective programming as well as expand constituent groups to include private higher education institutions, additional school districts, early childhood programs and business partners.

The second phase of Readiness Center work will begin when financial support is secured from the state. Expanding opportunities for professional development for educators, using needs assessments to identify gaps in professional

development and working with other centers statewide to develop appropriate tools for evaluation of professional development are the phase two goals.

In a best-case scenario, the state’s Readiness Centers will become their own entity, responsible to the state Secretary of Education with a director and a staff at each of the six centers coordinating research-based professional development, tearing down silos and building communication, Dr. Bradfield said.

Additionally, each center could offer specialization in a targeted area, she said, noting as an example that SEMARC could become the statewide leader in the beginning teacher’s growth and development as a professional educator. Bridgewater is working with New Bedford public schools on a first-year teacher induction program.

“School districts want a bigger say in what beginning teachers should know and that gets back to key skills of a new teacher,” Dr. Bradfield said. “We (Bridgewater) have a lot to offer in terms of induction and school districts don’t have money.”

Seed money available through grants and sponsored projects delivered through the state universities involved with the Readiness Centers could support specialized initiatives such as teacher induction or culturally inclusive pedagogies for school districts with a high number of English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) students.

The beneficiaries, of course, are the state’s students as they are educated by teachers who, once again, have raised the bar on knowledge, skills and abilities as well as the art of their profession. ■



Increase global and cultural awareness and encourage a diversity of perspectives on campus and in the region.

## Bridgewater commits to going global

**University adds support systems to enhance student learning, faculty research abroad**

BY EVA T. GAFFNEY, G'01

*"We live in a much different world – a world with global interaction in commerce, the Internet, future jobs and in education as well, especially the sciences. It is an institutional priority to move the university into the next area of advancement – international connections. The next 'big thing' on college campuses is internationalizing."*

*–Dr. Michael Kryzanek  
executive director of the  
Center for International Engagement*

Bridgewater State University has become a leader – if not the leader – among public higher education institutions in Massachusetts as the university has intensified its commitment to develop international partnerships that provide educational opportunities for students and faculty alike across the globe.

Groundwork laid over a number of years has paved the way for Bridgewater to offer, faculty to deliver and students to participate in an ever-increasing number of full-credit international study abroad tours. Concurrently, Bridgewater has hosted scholars from countries such as neighboring Canada to the Middle East.

A minimum of 20 international partnerships have been forged between Bridgewater and a wide range of international universities to benefit Bridgewater students who wish to experience a course, a semester or a year of study outside the close confines of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Bridgewater's commitment to expanding global participation will be further enhanced with the creation of the Center for International Engagement, which unites several former stand-alone units spread across two divisions at the institution under one roof. The center opened its doors in a 3,000-square-foot office space on the third floor of the Maxwell Library during the spring.

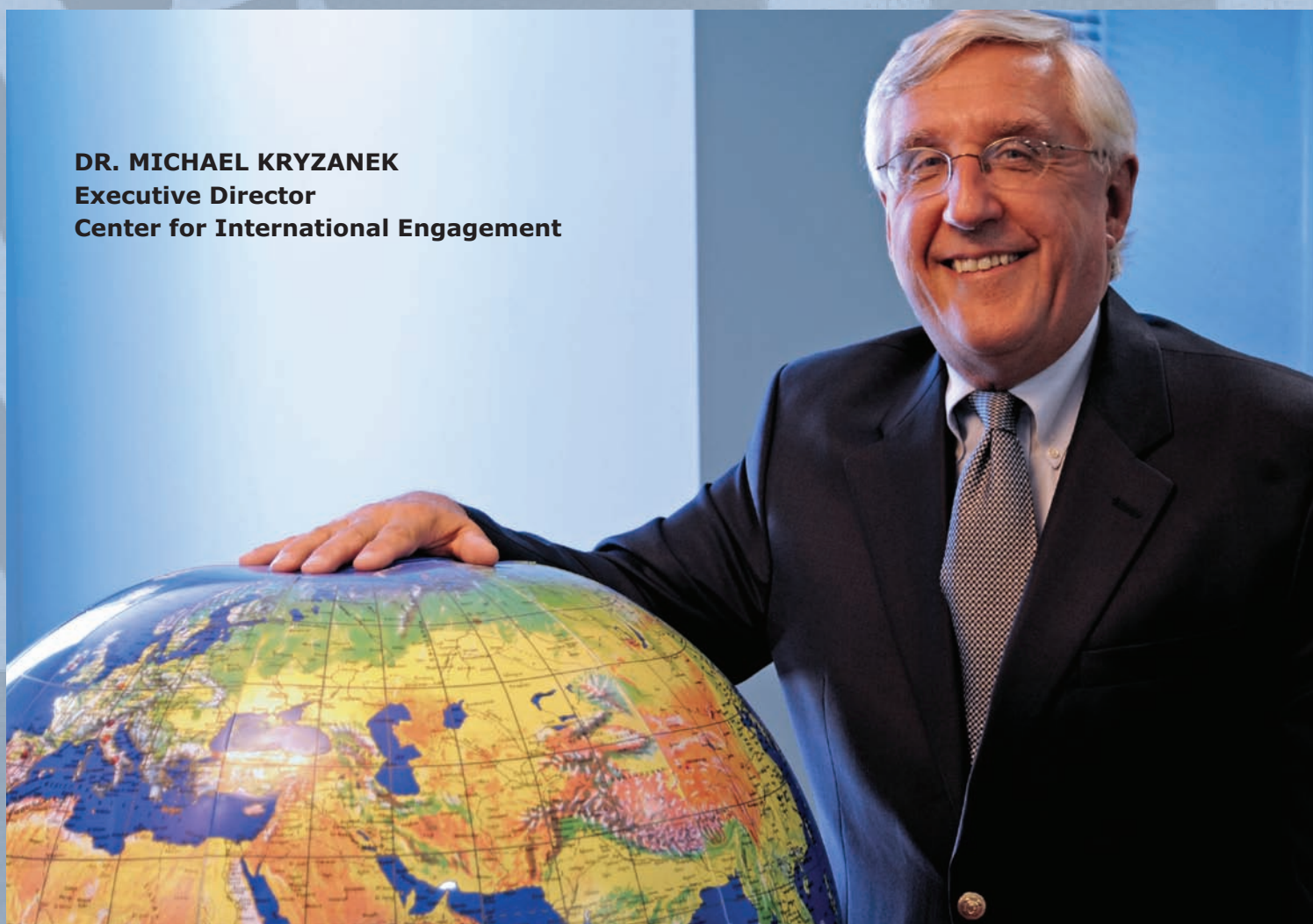
Dr. Michael Kryzanek, a longtime professor of political science with decades of distinguished research in Latin American politics, has become the university's first executive director of the Center for International Engagement. He will be part of a team within the center that includes the Office of Study Abroad, the Office of International Relations and the former Office of International Exchange Programs.

"President (Dana) Mohler-Faria recognizes the importance of internationalizing Bridgewater and creating an international environment reflective of global society in responding to an increasing global environment," Dr. Kryzanek said. Indeed, part of the university's strategic plan is to increase study abroad opportunities, exchanges and internships to offer the Bridgewater community a global perspective.

As the academic representation within the center, Dr. Kryzanek will encourage international faculty research projects and exchanges; offer journal monograph services to international faculty engagements; establish an international environment through the development of new course offerings; and coordinate areas of study within the university's many international minors, such as Asian, Middle Eastern, African, Latin American and Canadian studies. He will continue to teach in the Department of Political Science.

Dr. Kryzanek and the center's staff are building upon a solid foundation of international engagement largely constructed by faculty and supported by university

**DR. MICHAEL KRYZANEK**  
**Executive Director**  
**Center for International Engagement**




administration committed to enhancing Bridgewater's scope and mission, as demonstrated by the following examples:

Dr. Kevin Curry, professor of biological sciences, has been in Cambodia working on a water improvement program for the past year as a Presidential Scholar; Dr. Lisa Battaglini, professor of special education and communication disorders, has developed educational programs for special needs students in Belize; master's programs in education are being offered in New Mexico and Ecuador; Dr. Jabbar Al-Obaidi, chair of the Department of Communication Studies, has been the nexus of numerous partnerships with universities and scholars in the Middle East; Dr. Wing-kai To, history professor and coordinator of Asian Studies, has developed a series of relationships with China; Dr. Anthony Cicerone, professor of economics and director of Canadian Studies, worked to establish the first-ever endowed chair at a Massachusetts state college; and President Mohler-Faria and others are assisting the Republic of Cape Verde with establishing a public higher education system.

Conversely, students from abroad increasingly want to come to the United States to study science, mathematics and business, Dr. Kryzanek said. For more than two decades, Bridgewater's aviation program has appealed to students from Japan because the degree is cost prohibitive to attain there. On the graduate level, popular programs for international students at Bridgewater are computer science, accounting, social work and education.

"We live in a much different world – a world with global interaction in commerce, the Internet, future jobs and in education as well, especially the sciences," Dr. Kryzanek said. "It is an institutional priority to move the university into the next area of advancement – international connections. The next 'big thing' on college campuses is internationalizing."

And it appears that Bridgewater, through the synergy embodied in its new Center for International Engagement, is poised to become a model for global collaborations in higher education. 



Serve as an agent of social justice and sustainable practices, instilling in all members of the community a deeper understanding of the impact they each have on the greater good and our world.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN ON CAMPUS SINCE 2003 INCLUDE:**

**Rondileau Campus Center cafeteria renovation**  
introduced high-efficiency appliances and lighting

**Pope and Scott halls additions/renovations**  
Provided space for 300 more resident students on campus in LEED-certified buildings

**Crimson Hall**  
New 408-bed residence hall with 300-seat dining hall and conference suite, also LEED-certified

**Harrington Hall chiller replacement**  
\$20,000 annual savings with reduction of residual oil and increase in electricity

**Maxwell Library lighting**  
Controlled by Energy Management System

**Real-time monitoring**  
Through expanded Energy Management System, building loop temperatures, boilers, individual spaces, trending and temperature are continually monitored

**Server virtualization**  
Reduced number of servers from 150 to 69 and corresponding computers from 150 to 9, which compares to planting 1,380 trees and taking 104 cars off the roads

#### **SOURCE:**

*Campus Climate Commitment Neutrality Action Proposal*



## University continues to build upon sustainability

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

Concern for issues of social justice and a steadfast commitment to sustainable practices is a way of life at Bridgewater State University, not empty rhetoric. And that's a very good thing, not only for the institution, but also for the community it serves.

Southeastern Massachusetts is the fastest growing region in the commonwealth with some of the most culturally diverse communities, a true melting pot. Its history is rich and imbued with the very spirit of America. It is challenged, however, by the social and economic problems that arise when an area expands more rapidly than its infrastructure. And concern for the overall health of the region is heightened by the current fiscal crisis.

Bridgewater is committed to helping the region alleviate these concerns; to keep its doors open for families who struggle financially; to work with community partners to implement educational and social programs to end homelessness; to introduce and support sustainable practices on and off campus; to improve the lives of ordinary people; and to help reshape the future of our community.

Two top-of-mind examples of initiatives focused on social justice include Bridgewater State's Taskforce to End Homelessness, which brings together representatives from several nonprofit agencies in a proactive show of force. Bridgewater State is committed to making a difference in the lives of real people through teaching, research and student engagement. Similarly, hope and transformation are at the root of the Alternative to Violence program, in which Bridgewater State students





**Campus construction projects conducted with sustainability in mind include Crimson Hall (left) and the renovation of Flynn Dining Commons in Tillinghast Hall (center).**

**Exemplifying the dedication of Bridgewater students to social justice issues is Daniel Kent, '10, (right) sitting among some of the 1,066 cans of food he and fellow students collected during the 2010 Greek Week CANstruction drive on campus. During Dan's four years at Bridgewater, more than 10,500 cans of food were collected by the institution's Greek organizations.**

conduct a variety of hands-on life-skills workshops with prisoners at the Old Colony Correctional Center.

On campus, the institution's building projects and upgrades focus on sustainability. The goal is two-fold: to reduce emissions and to act as a model for the region, leading the charge for energy efficiencies and long-term cost savings.

As part of these efforts, and thanks to \$1.9 million in federal stimulus money through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Bridgewater is replacing aged and inefficient components in its air-conditioning systems in Boyden Hall and Maxwell Library. Two high-efficiency electric chillers will be linked to existing mechanical systems in the buildings to create the energy savings, while shrinking the institution's carbon footprint, said Tom Telford, project manager in the Office of Facilities Management and Planning. Projected annual operational savings from replacing the chillers is estimated at \$200,000; the shift from oil-generated steam absorption units to electric units will also reduce the use of and reliance on residual oil.

The institution has also embarked on a program to install photovoltaic or solar panels on campus buildings and grounds. Already, initial capital costs have begun to lessen as the payback period is becoming more attractive. The program has been piloted in one of the campus parking lots to determine future lighting retrofit projects, and negotiations are under way to install a 100 KWS system on the roof of Crimson Hall.

Additionally, federal stimulus money has been designated to an architectural upgrade of the Rondileau Campus Center auditorium, which stands to improve ADA compliance with wider doorways and improved seating.

The Bridgewater State community of leaders, faculty, students and staff understands the critical importance of building on these efforts, of coming to a greater understanding of our responsibilities to each other, and of accepting our sacred duty to safeguard our world. Future generations are counting on it. ■





## Celebrating growth

### *Ceremony marks phase one completion of Science and Math Center*

More than a hundred campus and community members attended a “topping off” ceremony for the new Science and Mathematics Center addition. The event marked the completion of phase one construction on the complex.

As part of the ceremony, a steel beam signed by dozens of dignitaries, administrators and construction workers, and decorated with an American flag, was hoisted up and fastened atop the addition’s immense framework.

Karen Jason, associate vice president of facilities management and planning, said the ceremony recognized not only the conclusion of phase one construction, but also the hard work of hundreds of individuals to see the project through.

The addition is set for completion in fall 2011, and demolition and renovation of the existing building will conclude in summer 2012. The multi-phased project will create a 213,000-square-foot, \$98.7-million science center, double the size of the current facility, the Conant Science Building, built in the 1960s. It will be the locus of study for nearly 800 science and math students, have office space for 56 full-time faculty members, and bring together under one roof the biology, chemistry, earth science, geography, physics, and math and computer science departments. ■

## President Mohler-Faria honored by Cape Verde

Acknowledging and honoring the close ties between the people and government of Cape Verde and Bridgewater State, Jose Maria Neves, prime minister of Cape Verde, presented President Dana Mohler-Faria with the country’s First Degree of Medal of Merit on Education for his role in developing the international partnership.

The award was presented in Boston during a day-long Cape Verdean youth violence conference. The audience of approximately 300 stood to honor President Mohler-Faria, who has been an active role model for the community and particularly its youth. “Today, we distinguished a great Cape Verdean citizen because he is a great American citizen,” Prime Minister Neves said.

The relationship between Cape Verde and Bridgewater took root in January 2005 when President Mohler-Faria led a delegation of faculty and administrators to Cape Verde for a seven-day visit to the land of his ancestors. Since then, the relationship has matured and, in 2006, with assistance from Bridgewater, Cape Verde established the University of Cape Verde, the nation’s first institution of higher education. Today, it enrolls 3,000 students. ■

## A nice place to visit

Bridgewater State University was named by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism to its list of “1,000 Great Places to Visit.”

Bridgewater was the only public university on the list, which a 12-person Great Places in Massachusetts Commission spent 18 months compiling. The members sifted through more than 12,000 online nominations from the public.

The commission was looking for places that were culturally or historically important, or simply beautiful.

The central historic district of the Town of Bridgewater was also on the list, as were Harvard Yard, Endicott College, MIT Museum, Williams College Art Museum, and the campuses of Mount Holyoke, Nichols College, Smith College and Wellesley College. ■

## Professor quoted in New York Times story

Dr. Elizabeth Englander is a nationally recognized expert on bullying of all types. So, it wasn’t a surprise when this spring a reporter for *The New York Times* called her for insight on the topic.

Dr. Englander, professor of psychology and director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater, is quoted in the first in a planned series of articles on cyberbullying. It was on the front page of the June 27 issue of the *Times*.

Additionally, Dr. Englander was invited to post a blog on the newspaper’s Web site, fielding questions about cyberbullying. ■

## Helping out inside the walls

Dr. Jo-Ann Della Giustina, assistant professor of criminal justice, earned the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Award for her service to the Old Colony Correctional Center, a medium-security prison in Bridgewater.

She was honored for her years of commitment and innovative ideas, including regular debates between the prisoners and Bridgewater State University students, and the new Inside-Out program where students and prisoners take a course together. She was also recognized for her service to the prison’s Alternatives to Violence Project workshops, designed to build a non-violent community among inmates. ■

## Dr. Vanessa Britto named new trustee

Dr. Vanessa Britto has a distinct memory of her first visit to Bridgewater. She was a sophomore in high school, and she'd come to hear a piano concert by Professor Henry Santos. Her mother surprised her during the performance. "She said, 'That's your new piano teacher,'" Dr. Britto recalled.

Professor Santos brought a rigor to her musical studies, gave her a love of playing music that survives today, and provided her with a connection to an institution that would figure in her adult life.

Dr. Britto was appointed to Bridgewater State University's Board of Trustees during the past academic year. "My breath was taken away when I was invited to be on the board," she said. "I am incredibly inspired and honored to serve. One of the attractions of being on the board is the work that Bridgewater is doing. I think it is an incredible jewel of the community, and the more I learn about it, the more I want to



shout about it. It's an incredible resource," she said.

The Taunton resident is director of health services at Wellesley College. She received a BA from Dartmouth College, a medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine and an MS in community health from Brown University. She is married to Dr. Galen Henderson, a neurologist and director of the Neurocritical Care Unit at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital. ■

## Louis M. Ricciardi, '81, appointed BHE vice chair

Bridgewater State University Board Chairman Louis Ricciardi, '81, has been appointed vice chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. Mr. Ricciardi was elected to a five-year term to the governing board of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education in April 2009.

"Of the many issues facing higher education today, the issue nearest and dearest to me is access," Mr. Ricciardi said.

"Affordability is certainly a key part of access, but in the broadest sense I'm also talking about working cooperatively with our Pre-K-12 system leaders to prepare our students to pursue the goal of higher education. I also want to make sure that they leave our institutions equipped with essential skills needed to succeed in the workforce."

Mr. Ricciardi is president and founder of The Ricciardi Financial Group in Taunton, which manages more than \$200 million on behalf of customers in a dozen states. He is a 30-year resident of Southeastern Massachusetts. ■



## NSF grant to assist science, math students

The National Science Foundation has awarded Bridgewater a grant of nearly \$1 million over five years to fund the "Student Retention Enhancement across Mathematics and Sciences" (STREAMS) project.

Under the direction of Drs. Thomas Kling, Jeffrey Williams, Matthew Salomone, Jennifer Mendell and Stephen Waratuke, the purpose of the grant is to increase the number of Bridgewater students who graduate with science or math degrees to 160 annually from the current 120.

"It's a big deal and will do a lot for our students," said Dr. Kling. "This is really a grant designed to aid us in helping more students accomplish their goal of becoming a scientist or a mathematician, whether they want to teach, work in the local high-tech industry, or pursue advanced studies."

To achieve this, programs will be instituted to improve retention of first- and second-year science and math majors by helping them do well in class and encouraging them to take advantage of the institution's strong undergraduate research opportunities. The first program funded by NSF was held in July – a summer bridge program for 16 incoming first-year science/math majors.

The grant was hotly contested. Only 22 out of 172 applicants were funded in an NSF national competition. "It's a huge vote of confidence in our institution," Dr. Kling said. "And it was a real community effort with a lot of people doing a lot of work to put the grant together."

Dr. Howard London, provost and vice president for academic affairs, extended to the faculty who made the grant a reality his "deepest appreciation and admiration. The hard and thoughtful work devoted to the proposal has justly been rewarded," he said.

Other grant-funded activities include mentoring, tutoring, a residential learning community of science/math majors, curricular changes to increase inquiry-based learning, and increased interaction with community colleges. ■



# Bridgewater awards degrees at commencement ceremonies




Samir Sumaida'ie, ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the United States, addresses graduates and their guests during the 2010 undergraduate commencement ceremony.

They attended Bridgewater against a backdrop of war and economic collapse, but the class of 2010 stood tall on their special day, when more than 1,000 of them received their undergraduate degrees on the Boyden Quadrangle in May. Speakers encouraged the graduates to look beyond their own lives and hometowns.

"As you make a living, make a life. The world needs you," said President Dana Mohler-Faria. "It's about change, it's about equity, it's about justice. We have prepared you well here at Bridgewater for both, making a living and making a life."

Samir Sumaida'ie, ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the United States, talked about a recent graduation ceremony in his native Iraq, and compared the prospects of those young people to those of Bridgewater's Class of 2010. The major difference is that the Iraqi graduates were living in a world of conflict.

"War brings out the worst and the best in human beings, I've witnessed both," he said, before turning his attention to the future of Bridgewater's graduates. "Education is a lifelong pursuit, and through education we can change ourselves. The key is to keep an open mind, a mind that is receptive, and that you interact with others with compassion and care."

Earlier in the week, more than 450 graduate degrees were conferred at Bridgewater's fifth graduate commencement ceremony, which featured a keynote address by Dr. John W. Bardo, chancellor of Western Carolina University and a former provost at Bridgewater. 

## Two thumbs up

Once again, Bridgewater students led the way at the Campus MovieFest's International Grand Finale. One student took home the coveted best comedy award for his short film, while another earned a nomination in the best cinematography category, after winning a major award at the regional level. It's the second year in a row the institution has left its mark on the student film festival, this year held in Las Vegas.

Senior Alex Perry took home the best comedy award for his movie, *Grow Grass Grow*, earning a best director nomination in the process and marking the first time in the event's history that a student has won in the same category two years consecutively. The communication studies major also earned the top comedy prize at last year's grand finale with his film, *Scrabble: The Motion Picture*.

Earning a nomination for best cinematography was senior Jim Sass with *That Good Night*, which won the best drama award at CMF's Northern Regional Grand Finale in New York City.



The two films were chosen for competition out of more than 2,000 submissions. They were also shown at The Cannes International Film Festival.

The CMF is the world's largest student film festival. Each year, students work in teams, writing, producing and editing their own films, and submitting them for competition as part of the CMF program at Bridgewater.

Alex and Jim had the opportunity at the competition to network with the top film industry writers, directors and producers who judge the films. In turn, the talented filmmakers have

helped build Bridgewater's reputation as an institution that produces top-notch student films, said Ed Cabellon, director of the Rondileau Campus Center. "We are now in the same student film conversation with schools like Emerson, NYU and UCLA," which all have large film programs, he said.

Nearly 30 family, friends and members of the BSC community traveled to Las Vegas to accompany the students at the competition.

The Student Government Association and Division of Student Affairs help support the CMF program. ■



## Warren Phillips, '75, G'89, G'02, earns more high marks

Warren Phillips, a seventh-grade teacher at Plymouth Community Intermediate School, added to his list of impressive career accomplishments when he was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Phillips holds three Bridgewater degrees. He earned his bachelor's degree in earth science and geography in 1975, and master's degrees in teaching physical sciences and instructional technology in 1989 and 2002, respectively.

"It is very gratifying to enter the National Teachers Hall of Fame after 35 years of teaching," said Mr. Phillips. "It reflects the excellent background of my Bridgewater training and the creative environment of the Plymouth Public Schools. I hope to continue to educate students and teachers with science lessons and professional development."

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Mr. Phillips landed what he thought was a job interview at PCIS. As it turns out, administrators needed a science teacher to start at the newly built school in two days, and that first visit turned out to be a tour of his new place of employment.

He never left. Known for admonishing students of the need to work hard, Mr. Phillips leads by example. He not only teaches, he leads his students in the production of a cable television show, records CDs of his own music, and is active in all sorts of educational endeavors, from arranging an annual three-day field trip for hundreds of students to contributing to science textbooks, and much more.

Over the past dozen years, he has earned state and national recognition for his teaching. In 2006, *USA Today* named him one of 20 members of the All-USA Teaching Team, and in 2007, he was inducted into the Massachusetts Scientific Educator's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Phillips is one of five inductees for 2010, and the only one from Massachusetts. The induction ceremony was held in June in Emporia, KS. 

## Lazy days of summer? Hardly.

The 15 weeks between commencement and opening day have become an intensive time for on-campus construction, renovation and renewal. Here are just a few of the major capital investments the institution has made in itself over the summer months:

### **\$98.6 million**

Conant Science Building addition and renovation

### **\$13.2 million**

Renovation and expansion of Great Hill Apartments

### **\$5.7 million**

Improvements to Swenson Athletic Complex

### **\$2.4 million**

Replacement of all windows in Shea-Durgin

### **\$2 million**

Addition to Hunt Hall

### **\$975,000**

Renovation of Rondileau Campus Center Auditorium

### **\$458,000**

Renovation of Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom

### **\$400,000**

Ongoing improvements to Burnell Hall





# New deans to lead Bridgewater's schools

BY EVA T. GAFFNEY, G'01

*Three of Bridgewater State University's five schools will have new leadership at the start of the academic year as two individuals have been appointed to deanships, while a member of the faculty who has served in high-level administrative positions has been appointed acting dean.*

Dr. Arthur Goldstein, a structural geologist who has worked around the world, is the founding dean of Bridgewater's new School of Science and Mathematics. Dr. Goldstein comes to Bridgewater from the University of New England in Maine, where he was dean of its College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Marian Extejt, associate dean and professor of management at the Gabelli School of Business at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, has been named dean of Bridgewater's School of Business.

Assuming the role of acting dean of Bridgewater's new School of Humanities and Social Sciences is Dr. Brenda Molife, who began her academic career at Bridgewater in 2001 with her appointment to the Department of Art, where she became chair.

They will join colleagues Dr. Anna Bradfield, dean of the School of Education and Allied Studies, and Dr. William Smith, dean of the School of Graduate Studies, in leading the institution's academic programming under the guidance of Dr. Howard London, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

Dr. Bradfield, who as Bridgewater's longest-serving dean participated on all search committees, said it was important for the successful candidates to demonstrate they could create an environment within the departments and programs of their schools that allows students and faculty to succeed.

◀ **Leading three of Bridgewater's five schools are  
(from left) Dr. Brenda Molife, Dr. Arthur Goldstein and Dr. Marian Extejt.**

"We have been fortunate to have attracted and hired people who will bring that knowledge and skills to their respective schools," she said. "Each understands the culture and content of the disciplines represented by their school, knows trends and demands of the professions, and has a sense for the strengths and possibilities for Bridgewater State University."

Dr. Goldstein brings to Bridgewater his intimate knowledge of National Science Foundation funding, as he held several positions within the NSF's Division of Earth Sciences where he had responsibility for grants programs in excess of \$150 million annually. Through mentoring faculty and creating partnerships, he hopes to increase large-scale funding initiatives for his school, as well as collaborative efforts with Bridgewater's other schools.

Dr. Goldstein will oversee the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Geography, Mathematics and Computer Science, and Physics. He said he sees his school serving all Bridgewater students through a number of collaborative partnerships across the campus, as well as enhancing Bridgewater's historic mission to prepare students to become professional educators.

Dr. Goldstein said he is looking forward to participating in Bridgewater's regional outreach efforts to create opportunities for students by partnering with corporate entities in Southeastern Massachusetts. "I want to meet people as rapidly as I can," he said, adding "Bridgewater has a very exciting atmosphere that is evident in its faculty and the administration."

"His keen understanding of contemporary issues in science and science education and his collaborative orientation will benefit our students, our faculty and our region," said Dr. London. "In fact, during his visit to our campus as a candidate for the deanship, some faculty came away from their meetings with him saying that they already felt they were working with their dean."

Dr. Goldstein was a professor of geology at Colgate University, where he served as department chair. He has published 30 peer-reviewed articles, monographs, field guides and maps, and has been the recipient of grants in excess of \$1.2 million. He received a BS in geology from Kent State University, and an MS and PhD from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Prior to her six years at Roger Williams, Dr. Extejt spent almost two decades on the faculty of John Carroll University in Ohio where she served as interim associate dean and director of its MBA program. She has extensive experience

leading two institutions through the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation, which she plans to pursue at Bridgewater.

"At Bridgewater, the institutional framework, processes and policies are in place to move forward efficiently" with initial application for accreditation, Dr. Extejt said, adding that she has been impressed by Bridgewater's collaborative spirit and its commitment to act with "the best interest of the students and the institution in mind."

Dr. Extejt holds a PhD in management and an MS in industrial administration, both through the Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University, and a bachelor's degree in chemistry and economics from John Carroll University. She has earned private and instrument pilot certificates.

Her academic background, professional training and personal interests suit Bridgewater's eclectic School of Business, which comprises the Departments of Accounting and Finance, Aviation Science, Economics and Management. "Her broad background in business, management, economics and aviation are a perfect match for Bridgewater," said Dr. London. "Her understanding of higher education in general and business education in particular, coupled with her organizational and leadership abilities will enable her to work most effectively with faculty and students."

Dr. Molife, as executive assistant to President Dana Mohler-Faria, was instrumental in the development of Bridgewater's strategic plan, advised the president and his cabinet on a number of academic issues, chaired the institution's Space Planning Committee and the President's Climate Commitment Task Force. She also served as acting dean of the School of Business.

In her role as acting dean, she will oversee the Departments of Anthropology, Art, Communication Studies, Criminal Justice, English, Foreign Languages, History, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, Theater and Dance.

"She is very quick to discern the dynamics of a situation and to understand what reforms, if any, are needed," said Dr. London. "Her deep commitment to the liberal arts, upbeat manner, intellectual range and collaborative ethic will contribute importantly to the establishment of the new School of Humanities and Social Sciences as a vital entity at Bridgewater." (For more about Bridgewater's new schools, see pages 6-7.)

All appointments became effective Aug. 1 as the institution entered its next stage as a newly minted university. ■



BY JOHN J. WINTERS

# Family days



Guan Ellerbe, '10, with sons JayLynn (right) and Jamari, juggles her roles as student and mother while studying for class.

*"A veteran social worker once told me that anything worth having is worth*

# State program enables single mom to follow her dream

Friday is Guan Ellerbe's "quiet day." On this particular Friday, she'd been on a morning job interview, taken her two sons for haircuts where there was a long wait, ran home for an interview and photo session, and then it was out the door again for a promised dinner at McDonald's.

This was, indeed, an easy day for the social work major. Most other days find her spending the daylight hours in one of the six classes she's carrying, and then working part time at Signature Medical Group or serving an internship at Brockton's Castle program, an inpatient adolescent treatment center.

Then it's family time. Then homework – hers – sometimes in bed as her eyes close upon another long day.

Easy, it's not. Worth it? Ask her.

"A veteran social worker once told me that anything worth having is worth the struggle," she said. "I live by that."

The 29-year-old Guan grew up the oldest of five in Boston's Mission Hill projects. She never knew her own father, and her family life was no bargain. In 2004, she moved with her two children to Brockton seeking a better life through education. The following year, she enrolled at Massasoit Community College through CHOICES, a transitional assistance program.

Most students find their major. In Guan's case, social work found her. From her early years, she's been reaching out to help others. Sometimes it was her mother, who needed help caring for Guan's siblings. Other times, it was appearing in court for a friend to serve as an advocate as she fought to keep her family intact.

"I never dwelled on my own issues, but always reached out to help others," Guan said. "I guess in some ways I've always been doing social work."

Guan is a One Family Scholar, and over the past five years she's been helped a great deal by the program. One Family was founded in 1999 by Paul and Phyllis Fireman and family, and seeks to end family homelessness across the commonwealth. One of the ways it does this is by helping single moms like Guan pay the bills and cover other "extra-scholastic" expenses while attending school.

"It's helped me tremendously," she said. "I wouldn't be as far in my education if not for One Family. It removed a lot of burdens for me."

Guan is nearly debt free, and through her involvement with One Family, has learned how to operate on a tight budget with restraint and great precision.

Also lending a hand along the way was Guan's adviser, Dr. Rebecca Leavitt, Bridgewater's veteran and much-honored professor of social work. She says her student was a wonderful addition to any class, and much more.

"When I think of Guan, I think of a person who is hard working, dedicated and eager to make the most of every opportunity," she said. "From the moment I met her, I was inspired by her determination to do well academically, prepare for a profession where she could help others, and continue being a loving and caring mother committed to raising and being available to her children."

Often there is both a laptop and desktop computer glowing on the desk in the small home office of Guan's apartment. Other times, the kitchen table is home base for study time. There she's joined by sons JayLynn, 9, and Jamari, 6.

Mother is the role Guan takes even more seriously than student.


"I strive to make sure I can provide for them," she said. This means finding time for regular outings for things like bowling and skating, and making sure the youngsters are always well dressed and able to participate in school activities, including sports.

Eventually, the result of all this time and effort will be a job as a medical social worker. When she was young, she helped out at Boston-area hospitals assisting those in need. Guan's career goal will bring her life full circle. Already, her sights are set on graduate school (Simmons, Boston University, Boston College, Wheelock and Bridgewater will likely be getting that application), after a year of field work.

Dr. Leavitt thinks her mentee will have no problem reaching her goals.

"She seemed very earnest and purposeful while juggling many competing needs," Dr. Leavitt said. "She takes her work seriously, but is always aware of trying to balance this with caring for her children."

It's a lot, Guan conceded, as outside the Friday afternoon sunshine began to wane. She was sitting at that traditional family gathering spot, the kitchen table, with her two sons – who were getting jittery for that promised dinner – doing her homework and dreaming of an even better future.

"I know this will be worth it in the end," she said. 





# Friday night light

BY EVA T. GAFFNEY, G'01

The last big piece of facility improvement for the Department of Athletics and Recreation is under way as the Swenson Athletic Complex is undergoing a \$5 million renovation that stands to rank Bridgewater “right up there” with Division III campuses across New England.

Athletic teams from the football squad to track and field to intramural sports will experience directly the benefits of playing under the lights on a new, all-weather surface built upon an immense modern drainage system.

John Harper, director of athletics and recreation, recalled sitting in the football stadium in 1991 during his interview, when Bridgewater had 350 student athletes. That number has grown to 475, and he said the upgraded facility will help the university’s recruiting efforts.

Work on the project began April 26, two days after the end of the baseball and softball season, forcing track and field

students who qualified for the postseason to find alternative venues for training. The timeline is tight as the facility, which was scheduled to open for the start of football season, will open Oct. 1.

The natural field, which was one of only two remaining natural fields in the 14-team Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference, will be replaced with a multipurpose synthetic field replete with a full-color permanent Bears logo at centerfield.

The 1,500-seat, handicap-accessible stadium will feature all new bleachers, as well as 250 chairbacks that will





# ts coming soon to Swenson as major upgrades to athletic complex begin

provide flexibility to recognize donors and honorees. The first row of bleachers will be five feet off the ground, Mr. Harper said, which will “make sight lines outstanding.”

The facility’s tiny press box will be replaced with a 650-square-foot, air-conditioned and lighted facility that will feature video and film accessibility from its rooftop.

Much of the track and field area is being re-engineered as part of the upgrade and will include a new location for long jump pits and javelin competition, as well as a new eight-lane track. When complete, the university will again host major state track meets, something it hasn’t been able to do for several years because of the facility’s condition.

The installation of lighting “will be a boon” to the athletics program, said Mr. Harper, adding, “a full range of programs will benefit, not football only, and that will benefit all students. We will have more usable time on the fields so more students can take advantage of that.”

Other amenities, such as private coaching boxes, heat/air conditioning within the stadium’s structures, a new sound system and scoreboard, complete the renovation. The majority of the project is being financed through Massachusetts State College Building Association bonding with the remaining costs paid with institutional funds.

Mr. Harper said a special event to celebrate the renovated Swenson Athletic Complex will be held during one of the football team’s five home games in the fall. “Our football alumni are ecstatic” about the renovation, he said. “A lot have been waiting a long time for this, and we are grateful to them as a group of alumni and donors.”

The Swenson renovation is the third major project over the past two decades for Bridgewater’s athletics and recreation program. It was preceded by the construction of the Adrian Tinsley Center, which opened in 2002, and creation of Alumni Park, the university’s baseball and softball complex, in the late-1990s.





# The High Life

CLUB KIDS,

HARM AND

DRUG POLICY

Dina Perrone

Foreword by Mercer L. Sullivan  
Qualitative Studies in Crime and Justice, Volume 2

A CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRESS PROJECT

## Professor's book looks at drug use among "club kids"

# The high

Dr. Dina Perrone is no stranger to the party scene. In fact, she studies it.

The Bridgewater assistant professor of criminal justice spent 15 months conducting ethnographic research on so-called "club kids" up and down the East Coast. Each weekend, she was the proverbial fly on the nightclub wall investigating

their patterns of drug and alcohol use and the factors that seemed to protect them from the usual pitfalls faced by other types of users.

The result of her research is *The High Life: Club Kids, Harm and Drug Policy*, published by Lynne Rienner.

While many studies focus on substance abuse, Dr. Perrone saw a need to document the patterns and factors affecting what she saw as an atypical population of drug users. These were not the stereotypical abusers – poorer people living in cities. They were middle-class professionals who had families and decent jobs.

"My study focused on white, wealthy young people," she said. "They have jobs, they graduated from college, they own businesses, they're doctors, they have PhDs. This is a very different group of drug users."

Dr. Perrone observed these 20-somethings in New York City, the Hamptons, the Jersey shore and in Miami. She watched as they partied their nights away, imbibing a running mix of ecstasy, cocaine, GHB (Gamma hydroxybutyrate, a depressant), ketamine (an anesthetic used by veterinarians), crystal meth, marijuana and alcohol.

These names ring alarm bells for most people, and raise flags for law enforcement. However, these young and successful club kids seemed untouched by the typical consequences that affect other groups of users. "Because they were socially embedded, they had many factors that prevented them from getting into very excessive use patterns," Dr. Perrone said.

Among those factors were jobs and family responsibilities. Hence, they mostly partied on weekends, and on Monday had to switch gears and head back to work. This semblance of structure safeguarded them from getting too deep into trouble. "They were basically insulated from the harms that many other users suffer," Dr. Perrone said.

Most people in the field focus on what might be called drug use at the "street level," she said. The people she studied are distinct in nearly every way from the stereotypical abuser, as viewed by law enforcement, the media and general public.

"This is not an image most people think about when they think about drug users," Dr. Perrone said. The work has transformed her perception of drug abuse, she added. The ultimate hope is that policymakers and law enforcement will pay attention.

"My research shows we need a more multifaceted approach to understanding drugs and to address drug use," she said. "Specifically, U.S. drug policy is very law-enforcement oriented. We need more focus on treatment and harm reduction."

For more information about Dr. Perrone's book, log on to:

[www.rienner.com/title/The\\_High\\_Life\\_Club\\_Kids\\_Harm\\_and\\_Drug\\_Policy](http://www.rienner.com/title/The_High_Life_Club_Kids_Harm_and_Drug_Policy). 



# life

BY JOHN J. WINTERS







Photo by Air Force Master Sgt. Jeremy Lock

# Help for HAITI

BY JOHN J. WINTERS

**The eyes of the world turned to Haiti on Jan. 12. That day, the island nation was torn apart by an earthquake that registered 7.0 on the Richter scale. It struck the capital city of Port-au-Prince, killing, injuring and displacing hundreds of thousands.**

**Emotional aftershocks reached around the world. At Bridgewater, with upward of 125 Haitian students, there has been much anguish.**

"There was a lot of sadness and feelings of despair," said Richardson Pierre-Louis, a native of Haiti who is a resident director for Miles and DiNardo halls. He has his finger on the pulse of the campus' Haitian population. Many of the students he was in touch with had never been to Haiti or moved away at an early age. Still, he said, they knew of people lost in the earthquake.

"They identified with their family's pain," Mr. Pierre-Louis said. "Rightfully so. They quickly started asking, 'What can I do?'"

Frantic calls home in those earliest days slowly turned to the collective will across campus to lend a hand. Less than a month after the quake, Bridgewater's day-long Hope.Help.Haiti fundraising event raised more than \$8,000 for the cause. The event featured lectures, poetry, dance and music, as well as discussions centering on the country's history and culture.

The goal was not only to raise money, but to raise consciousness.

"This is not about charity, it is about humanity," said Dr. Sandra Faiman-Silva, professor and chairperson of the anthropology department, and an organizer of event with the Community Service Center, more than a dozen student groups, academic departments and campus offices.

During an impassioned keynote speech, President Dana Mohler-Faria asked the crowd, "What will you use your life for?" He then called upon attendees to support Haiti and commit acts of goodwill each day.

Many members of the Bridgewater community did their part when Haiti needed them. Two students with direct ties to the island, and who answered the call in the nation's hour of need, are featured here. They represent the excellence of giving that is the hallmark of a Bridgewater-educated citizen of the world. ■





# When the Earth shook

Haitian student stands tall in his family's time of trouble

BY JOHN J. WINTERS

**Gedeon Brezil (right), clowns around with his cousin Raymond in Port-au-Prince hours before the earthquake hit.**



**While hanging out with family** in his uncle's house in the Martissant section of Port-au-Prince, Gedeon Brezil felt the earth move beneath him.

"It was like being on a small boat that someone was rocking violently in an effort to knock me off," he said.

It was Jan. 12, and a devastating earthquake was striking at the heart of Haiti. During the quake's peak, his uncle yelled for everyone to evacuate the two-story house, fearing it might collapse. Outside was chaos, Gedeon recalled.

"I could hear the screaming, and my family was telling me about people running by with blood all over their clothes and broken bones," the 37-year-old said.

There was a reason his family members were telling him what was going on around them, describing the wretched visions they were witnessing.

Gedeon, a social work major at Bridgewater, is blind.

Earthquakes like the one that devastated his native country are scary. Scarier still is not being able to see your family or your surroundings while the earth is seemingly breaking apart beneath your feet.

However, Gedeon's actions in the aftermath of the quake showed a special kind of courage, a special kind of love and generosity.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, he struggled to learn the fate of his family members who lived close to the epicenter. His youngest sister, Johane, had lost her home. Gedeon, unable to get out of the country for a few days following the quake, spent nights sleeping on the street with her family. They had lots of company.



It took several days before he could catch a flight out of Haiti to the Dominican Republic and then back home to Brockton. Safe once again in his adopted country, Gedeon didn't forget his family across the ocean.

"I knew I had to get supplies to my family," he said.

Gedeon came to the United States when he was 15. He settled with his father and two of his siblings in Brooklyn. Like so many before them, they came in search of the American Dream. Several years later, he met a woman and they eventually married.

In 1996, a single moment changed his life forever. An accidental gunshot wound to the head robbed him of his sight.

Eventually, he moved to Brockton, where one of his sisters was living, and enrolled in Massasoit Community College. In 2008, he matriculated at Bridgewater. "I like working with people who have intellectual disabilities," he said. Though he's quick to add, any line of work that involves helping others will suit him fine.

However, sometimes social work, like charity, begins at home.

Following the earthquake, Gedeon personified the kind of selflessness for which people in his field are known. He borrowed \$3,500 and raised another \$1,500 from his father, siblings and a friend here in the United States. He purchased five large tents and other supplies in Massachusetts, recruited his nephew Marc and headed back overseas to his native island.

They landed on the Dominican side, where they purchased another five tents and four generators. They got a truck and drove the eight hours to the Haitian border. There, his sister was waiting to receive what must have seemed like manna from above.

"They couldn't have been more thankful," Gedeon said.

The tents were designed to sleep 10. His sister's family fits 15 in hers, and, as of spring, the family was still homeless and sleeping beneath its cover.

Gedeon is glad he was able to help. He feels fortunate to have made it through the country's worst earthquake. He thinks of the 230,000 people who died, the 300,000 injured, and one million left homeless. He is glad to have had the chance to extend a helping hand to his family.

"I did it for myself, too," he said. "I could have been among those killed or injured. But I was saved. I'm so thankful to be alive. This is my way to say thanks to God."

Gedeon will be eligible to graduate after he finishes three more classes. Then he'll decide whether to search for a job – he's been interning with the Department of Developmental Services and would like to be hired full time – or continue his studies in pursuit of a master's degree.

Either way, he's already earned high marks for his actions of January 2010, when the world buckled beneath him and he stood tall. ■



**One day during her sophomore year,** Shayla Mombeleur was sitting in Professor Jodie Kluver's class on civic involvement when a guest lecturer described her life of missionary work. The speaker, Julie Manfred, described how she took much-needed supplies to Haiti to help some of the island nation's poorest inhabitants.

The next time Ms. Manfred was onboard a plane bound for Haiti to continue her good work she had some company.

"I called her and asked her when she was going back, and booked my ticket," said Shayla, now a junior.

The subsequent experience of visiting her father's homeland struck a nerve in the young political science major. "The first moment I saw some of the orphans it really inspired me," she said. "There was a calling inside of me that told me I had to do this."

Since then, Shayla has started her own nonprofit organization to deliver baby formula, toiletries and clothing to an orphanage in Port-au-Prince. In the year before the devastating earthquake hit Haiti, she had already made two trips back and forth. Two days before the disaster, she was scheduled to return. Luckily, her flight was canceled.

Also lucky were the 125 orphans Shayla had gotten to know from her charitable endeavors: All survived. The



**Shayla Mombeleur holds a Haitian orphan during an earlier visit to the country.**

# A formula for giving

## **Junior starts nonprofit to feed hungry infants in Haiti**

BY JOHN J. WINTERS

God's Children Orphanage itself, however, was not so lucky. It was turned to rubble in the magnitude-7.0 earthquake.

Charity is something that runs in the family. Shayla's father, Alfred, was also inspired during his college years. While at Boston University in the early 1990s majoring in social work, he was bitten by the charity bug. He and Shayla's mother, Sheila Hampton, several years ago founded a nonprofit organization, Caribbean U-Turn, to help Caribbean youth in the Mattapan area. They offered mentoring, violence prevention programs, HIV prevention education, and worked with state agencies toward helping these young people avoid trouble.

Shayla, a Brockton resident, got involved in the family "business" at an early age, leading prevention classes and helping out in other ways. She was more than ready to pick up the torch herself in 2008 when she heard about Haiti's needs and the work of people like Ms. Manfred.

"I've always loved doing this type of missionary work," she said.


When the earthquake struck, Shayla heard from relatives, friends and the people at the orphanage about the devastation. "I have a cousin over there who lost his house and many of his friends are dead," she said.

Even with her extracurricular activities, Shayla is a member of the honor society and the political science sorority, Phi Sigma Alpha. Her concentration is in legal studies, and she is carrying a double minor of civic leadership and communication studies. During her first two years at Bridgewater, she served as a resident assistant and was a member of the Student Government Association and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

She plans to base her honors thesis on her experience of seeing poverty up close and working to alleviate it.

Less than a month after the earthquake, Shayla was even more fervently collecting goods and money to take to Haiti. And, it's interesting to note that this story has come full circle: In February, she spoke to one of Professor Kluver's classes about her work, inspiring about 30 students to join her in the mission of feeding the orphans of Haiti.

The next time Shayla returns to Haiti she may have some company – a group of her Bridgewater classmates.

Learn more about Shayla's work at her nonprofit organization's Web site: [www.caribbeanuturn.webs.com/](http://www.caribbeanuturn.webs.com/). 





# A class act

**International alumna  
learning important lessons  
in her home away from home**

BY JOHN J. WINTERS

To observe Yoko Kojima, '09, working with the students at the Perkins School for the Blind is to see compassion in action.

The job requires patience and understanding. Empathy helps, too. On a spring afternoon during music class, Ms. Kojima made her way inside the circle of students, holding a drum for each when came his or her time to "solo." Later, she helped in the raucous jam sessions that filled the room with a noise that was as joyous as it was unabashed.

"I love working here," she said.

Her work at the Watertown-based school, which educates the visually and hearing impaired, includes taking students to art class, cooking with them once a week, planning

activities, participating alongside them in gym class and swimming lessons, and assisting some of the residential students at bedtime.

The employment came about through a job fair held her senior year at Bridgewater, sponsored by the Office of Career Services. Ms. Kojima didn't know exactly what she was hoping to find when she walked into the Campus Center Ballroom that day, but had an inkling.

"I was willing to talk to anyone from a school," she said. She met with the folks from Perkins, who later e-mailed her about an open house they were hosting. Inspired by the story of Helen Keller, Ms. Kojima visited Perkins, met with a supervisor, and shortly after graduating, went to work there.

The Tokyo native first came to the United States during her high school years, spending two semesters in Minnesota. Then, her primary interest was learning English. In 2005, she returned, enrolling first at Quincy College, before switching two years later to Bridgewater. Getting the skills needed to teach became her goal.

"I have always wanted to work with children, and someone told me the United States had good programs for early childhood education," she said.

At Perkins, Ms. Kojima works with students age 16 and over in the school's residential program. It's a different kind of experience, but one she said is important.


"I love working with these students because they present different challenges," she said. "It's just so different from when I used to work with little children."

Ms. Kojima credits Bridgewater with preparing her for work in these settings. Her tenure there included time spent at the Children's Center as part of the field work for a course.

She's still learning. At Perkins, she not only gaining experience working with a special population of students, she plays a hands-on part in planning and adjusting their activities and is taking sign language classes.

Under the rules of Optional Practicum Training, a program under which U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services allows foreign students to remain in the country on a student visa for up to a year to gain practical training in their chosen fields, Ms. Kojima will have to head home to Japan in September. However, her plans may have her returning stateside for her master's degree.

No matter where her career takes her, she says a part of her will always remain at Bridgewater and, now, with the young friends she's made in the classrooms at the Perkins School.

In short, the work has changed her. "It has really affected my feelings toward them," she said. 



*"I love working with these students because they present different challenges. It's just so different from when I used to work with little children."*

—YOKO KOJIMA, '09





# DAVID ENGLUND:

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

When Professor David Englund began his teaching career at Bridgewater in 1963, the student body numbered approximately 1,000. When he retired in 1997, enrollment topped the 9,000 mark.

Looking back, Professor Englund estimated that during his 34-year tenure, he taught more than 5,000 of those students, predominately elementary education majors and secondary education minors, as well as graduate students enrolled in the educational leadership program.

In 1963, the student union was in the basement of Boyden Hall, and Professor Englund frequently joined faculty and students for informal discussion groups on a variety of topics. Today, the Rondileau Campus Center houses the

diverse student clubs and organizations where formal and informal discussions are the order of the day.

Since then, Bridgewater's 36-acre campus has expanded to 270 acres. Bottom line: things have changed in the 47 years since Professor Englund first stepped foot in Bridgewater.

What hasn't changed is his passion for teaching, a passion he carries on as adjunct professor at Quincy College in Plymouth where he teaches a course or two each semester in philosophy, religion, history or survey of fine arts.

What hasn't changed is Professor Englund's commitment to personal growth, as evidenced by his work as a sculptor and his membership in the New England Sculpture Association.

*“All were strong individuals who made their statements openly and bravely; all were passionately involved in the central, sometimes controversial, aspects of life.”*


**DAVID ENGLUND, describing his subjects, (below from left)  
Frank Lloyd Wright, Edna St. Vincent Millay and Leonardo da Vinci.**

In the last few years, he has sculpted the busts of Frank Lloyd Wright, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Leonardo da Vinci, Herman Melville and Frederick Douglass – five individuals who, in his words, “have had a marked influence on the world and on my life. At the present time, my work in progress is a bust of Metacomet, or King Philip, courageous sachem of the Wampanoags. All were strong individuals who made their statements openly and bravely; all were passionately involved in the central, sometimes controversial, aspects of life.”

Prior to sculpting his subject, Professor Englund conducts his research, creates multiple sketches and forms a clay model. “Creating the clay model is the most intense part of the process,” he said. “I feel challenged to create a connection between the eye openings in the head and the mind or soul of the discerning observer; this gives the sculpture life.”

When the clay model is complete, the piece is conveyed to a foundry in Rhode Island where it is cast in bronze, coated with patina and mounted on a block of marble.

Today, Professor Englund’s home with his studio is in Mattapoisett Village, six houses from the harbor. He has seven children, four grandchildren and a great grandson. One evening a week, he teaches children beginning chess at the Mattapoisett Library; he teaches, sculpts, writes poetry and, through it all, carries with him his fond memories of his time at Bridgewater, of the students he taught and the lives he shared for so many years.

To contact Professor Englund, e-mail him at [denglund603@yahoo.com](mailto:denglund603@yahoo.com), or visit his Web site, [www.daveenglund.net](http://www.daveenglund.net). 

# a passion for life







*EQUITY: keeping the doors to higher education open for students of all ages and all backgrounds*

*ENGAGEMENT: intensive student-faculty interaction, a catalyst for learning and community building*

*ENRICHMENT: delivering an extraordinary educational experience by giving students what they and their communities deserve – the very best*

## Campaign tops the halfway mark

### Equity, engagement, enrichment are the focus of fundraising drive

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

#### Campaign receives major boost

The university's Three Pillars of Excellence Campaign received a generous gift from one of its leading supporters and most passionate advocates. Dr. Marilyn (White) Barry, '58, a longtime contributor and dean emerita of graduate studies, presented the university with a \$150,000 contribution. Dr. Barry, a Lakeville native, is a trustee of the Bridgewater Foundation and a member of the Campaign Steering Committee.

In accepting the gift on behalf of the students and faculty, President Dana Mohler-Faria said, "Dr. Barry's tremendous gift is the latest expression of her lifelong commitment, dedication and generosity to Bridgewater.

"In so many ways – as an alumna, former faculty member and dean, trustee of the Foundation, and inspirational benefactor – Marilyn has played a leading role in building our culture of excellence." ■

The Three Pillars of Excellence, a campaign for Bridgewater, which emerged as a public initiative for the university in January, has raised more than \$9 million to date toward an overall campaign goal of \$15 million.

Molly Fannon Williams, vice president of Bridgewater's Division of Institutional Advancement, praised the generous support of the institution by alumni and friends during the intensive three-year "quiet phase" that preceded the public initiative.

With little more than a third of the way to go, Bridgewater continues to encourage alumni, friends, parents, students, and local and regional business and community leaders to support public higher education by supporting the campaign.

"Supporting the university helps all of us," said Ms. Fannon Williams. "Bridgewater is educating tomorrow's work force. Tomorrow's humanitarians, teachers, social workers, scientists, business men and women ... And, given the decline in state appropriations, Bridgewater, as a public institution, relies on private support to sustain and grow its tradition of excellence."

Campaign gifts have already resulted in strong growth for Bridgewater's annual fund, which supports financial aid, undergraduate research, faculty development and academic programs like study abroad and financial literacy.

Since the campaign began, new gifts to Bridgewater's endowment have resulted in a number of new named, endowed funds that provide financial assistance directly to deserving and grateful students and faculty in the form of scholarship and research aid.

"Additionally, many alumni and university friends have come forward to establish tax-savvy, deferred gifts for the campaign that will benefit Bridgewater's future generations of scholars," said Ms. Fannon Williams.

The campaign, The Three Pillars of Excellence – equity, engagement and enrichment – is all about effecting meaningful transformation at Bridgewater.

Keeping the doors to higher education open for students of all ages and all backgrounds is at the heart of Bridgewater's mission (equity). Intensive student-faculty engagement is Bridgewater's trademark and its catalyst for learning and community building (engagement). Bottom line: Bridgewater is committed to delivering an extraordinary educational experience by giving students what they and their communities deserve – the very best (enrichment).

For information on how to get involved with The Three Pillars of Excellence, contact Ms. Fannon Williams at 508.531.2609 or [m4williams@bridgew.edu](mailto:m4williams@bridgew.edu). ■

# Campaign pledge benefits social justice

Philanthropists at every level of giving share a sense of responsibility to give something back; their philanthropic dollars help solve problems, fuel creativity and support the disenfranchised.

Theirs is a commitment to effect positive change in a multitude of creative ways – through education, social programs, research and development. Most importantly, however, philanthropists share an authentic desire to make a difference.

Phyllis A. Klock, '67, and her husband, David Klock, maintain that to give at any level is to give a great deal.

"My husband and I want to help others have the opportunities we've had to achieve success," said Ms. Klock, "whether that success is defined as material, spiritual or emotional success, or, simply the success of becoming a caring, kind person for whom giving back is a kind of intangible generosity of spirit."

The Klocks invest in people and programs and, to that end, have pledged a multiyear leadership gift to the Three Pillars of Excellence campaign for Bridgewater. They have a keen understanding of how declining state aid for education can impact entire communities, which depend on an educated citizenry to thrive economically, socially and culturally.

The Klocks, therefore, place public higher education high on their list of philanthropic priorities.

Ms. Klock graduated from Bridgewater with a degree in history; her husband, son and daughter-in-law are all graduates of public institutions. Ms. Klock spent a portion of her career in education, both as a high school history and political science teacher and college administrator.

She followed this by a successful second career in business as president and chief operating officer of CompBenefits Corporation, which ultimately sold to Humana. Mr. Klock, an executive with CompBenefits for many years, has devoted a large portion of his working life to public higher education as a faculty member and dean.

The couple's unrestricted pledge to the campaign means Bridgewater can direct their funds to an area of critical need. "We're very involved in education and know that discretionary funds are crucial for an institution, said Ms. Klock. "Leadership seeks to accomplish certain goals, so we asked President Mohler-Faria, "What's highest on your list?"

Not surprisingly, given the service mission of Bridgewater, the Fund for Social Justice was selected, with its goal to support students interested in social justice and community service. Given the Klocks' interest in issues of equity, the suggestion resonated well. "Students, today, are passionate about becoming involved in the community, putting their hands, hearts and minds to helping and serving," Ms. Klock said. "We support anything that can be done to encourage that."

As importantly, the Klocks know who will shepherd their donated dollars. "We have a great deal of respect for the president and his advancement team," Ms. Klock said. "We came to see that their hearts and minds are where we had hoped they would be."

Ms. Klock, now "retired," serves on the board of the University of Central Florida and is an active volunteer in her church and local elementary school. She remembers her Bridgewater days with pride: "I felt challenged at Bridgewater, and I'm very proud to say I graduated from Bridgewater," she said. ■



*"My husband and I want to help others have the opportunities we've had to achieve success, whether that success is defined as material, spiritual or emotional success, or, simply the success of becoming a caring, kind person for whom giving back is a kind of intangible generosity of spirit."*

—PHYLLIS A. KLOCK, '67



## Upcoming ALUMNI EVENTS

### CLASSES OF 1961, 1962 ALUMNI RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15, 3:30-7:30 PM

Hosted by James, '61,  
and Lana (Steele) Argir, '62  
Call Candace Maguire at  
508.531.2695 for information.

### CLASS OF 1963 BRUNCH

SUNDAY, SEPT. 19

Pasta House, Fairhaven  
Reservations required

### HOMECOMING 2010

SATURDAY, OCT. 16

Among this year's highlights will  
be the football game at the new  
Swenson Athletic Complex. Visit  
the alumni online community at  
<http://alumni.bridgew.edu> in early  
September for more details.

### ALUMNI E-MAIL ADDRESS

If you'd like a Bridgewater alumni  
e-mail address, please e-mail  
[alumni@bridgew.edu](mailto:alumni@bridgew.edu) with your  
name and class year, or call the  
alumni office at 508.531.1287.

### BECOME A FACEBOOK FAN

The Alumni Association is on Face-  
book. Search for "Bridgewater  
Alumni Association."

### STAY CONNECTED.

Send your news to Christine Regan  
in the Office of Alumni Relations  
via e-mail at [alumni@bridgew.edu](mailto:alumni@bridgew.edu)  
or via mail at Davis Alumni Center,  
Bridgewater State University,  
Bridgewater, MA 02325.

The class notes editor reserves the  
right to edit submissions for clarity  
and brevity. Submitted photos must  
be either high-resolution digital  
images or original prints from film.  
Photos generated on home printers  
are not of publication quality.

# AlumniUpdate



President Dana Mohler-Faria (third from left) stands alongside his portrait with the artist and his wife, Lotte and Hans Weiss (from left), and BAA president Carol (Wilusz) Kryzanek, '69.

## BAA presents President Mohler-Faria with official portrait

In a celebration that opened its board meeting, the Bridgewater Alumni Association presented President Dana Mohler-Faria with his official portrait. An official portrait presentation has happened just 10 times since the university's 1840 founding.

Molly Fannon Williams, vice president of institutional advancement, said the hallmark of Dr. Mohler-Faria's presidency "has been building a strong and passionate community around educational excellence and articulating what excellence means to our campus and the region."

She acknowledged the accomplishments of the BAA, which gifted the portrait to the university. "By supporting this project and providing the funds, the alumni association has given a gift to the college that will endure for centuries," she said.

BAA President Carol (Wilusz) Kryzanek, '69, praised Dr. Mohler-Faria "for his leadership and vision. He is held in very high regard by the entire board of the alumni association."

Following their remarks, Ms. Fannon-Williams and Mrs. Kryzanek unveiled the portrait to the applause of the assembled guests.

President Mohler-Faria thanked the BAA, saying he was "humbled" by the presentation and by the fact that the portrait hangs alongside his esteemed predecessors. He praised the artist, Hans Weiss, for his talent and painstaking attention to detail.

## A new day for Greek life

The Bridgewater State University Panhellenic Association, the governing council for national sororities on campus, approved opening for extension. Bridgewater has not opened a new fraternity/sorority chapter since 1989, when Phi Sigma Sigma was installed. Bridgewater was included in a memo that went to all 26 members of the National Panhellenic Conference and sororities interested in opening a chapter at Bridgewater. An Extension Committee, set up through the Panhellenic Association, reviewed applications, and three international sororities were selected for visits to campus in April: Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Gamma Delta. The Panhellenic Extension Committee will select one sorority to begin colonizing its chapter in the fall semester. Sorority membership at Bridgewater has been on the rise for the past two years, and the Panhellenic Association is looking forward to providing more opportunities to undergraduate women. For questions about fraternity and sorority life, contact Maribeth Johnson-Flakes of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership at [maribeth.johnson@bridgew.edu](mailto:maribeth.johnson@bridgew.edu).

## Fortieth reunion brunch

Members of the Class of 1969 came together for a 40<sup>th</sup> reunion brunch in the Dunn Conference Suite and had a great time catching up on each other's news and reminiscing about their days at Bridgewater. Some took part in a brief bus tour of campus after brunch. Discussions about the 45<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> reunions will begin in the fall.

To join the reunion committee, call Candace Maguire, director of alumni and donor relations, at 508.531.2695.



**Celebrating the Arthur C. Cox Memorial Scholarship are (clockwise, from left) Dr. Alan Comedy; John "Lenny" McLean, '90; Arthur Cox; recipient Tisha Hughes, '11; Funmi Kolawole; Michael P. Henry, '92; Joetta Cox; and Ruby Cox.**

## Afro-American Alumni Association

The Afro-American Alumni Association sponsored two information nights for students at the Davis Alumni Center. The first session focused on the best way to apply for the many scholarships that are available. Christine Regan, assistant director of alumni relations, led the discussion.

Joetta Cox and her family traveled from North Carolina to meet the first Arthur C. Cox Scholarship recipient, Tisha Hughes, '11. Established in 2008 in memory of Arthur C. Cox, '98, the award is presented to a student who demonstrates dedication to helping others, strong leadership skills and keen awareness of how to take initiative and build consensus.

The Afro-American Alumni Association is looking for new members for its board of directors. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 508.531.2695 or visit [www.bridgew.edu/afroamalum/](http://www.bridgew.edu/afroamalum/).



**Alumni gather at the Beverly Hills home of Patti (Ross) Reinstein, '65, and her husband, Fred, for the Southern California Alumni Reception on March 13.**

## 2010 regional alumni visits

### NAPLES, FL

For the second year in a row, Dr. Paul Hobaica, '88 and his wife, Mai Lea, graciously welcomed area alumni into their Naples home for an evening of great food, lots of laughter and classmates reuniting. More than 30 people attended this event, with many expressing what a great time they had the year before and wouldn't have missed this year.

### THE VILLAGES, FL

After attending last fall's "50 Years of Football at Bridgewater celebration," former football player Paul Callahan and his wife, former cheerleader Betty (Sawin), both members of the Class of 1963, generously volunteered to host a regional alumni reception at their home in The Villages. More than 35 people attended this first-time event in the area, with many of the attendees not realizing that fellow Bridgewater graduates were living right in the same community.

### RED SOX SPRING TRAINING

A group of 30 alumni attended a spring training Red Sox game in Fort Myers and saw the home team take on the Minnesota Twins. Prior to the game, alumni were greeted by Wally the Green Monster at a cookout behind the field. Not a bad way to spend a Saturday in March, and it didn't hurt that the Red Sox won the game.

### BRADENTON, FL

For six years, Sue (Libby) Thevenin, '64, G'74, and her husband, Arthur, have hosted a Sunday brunch at the IMG Golf Academies in Bradenton. This 10<sup>th</sup> annual event (previously hosted at the Chart House in Longboat Key) is a highlight of the trip. The speaker was Bridgewater's director of development, Todd Audyatis, who updated the guests about the university and its future plans.

### BEVERLY HILLS, CA

About 15 years ago, Patti (Ross) Reinstein, '65, hosted a reception at her Beverly Hills home, and when she offered to host another, the university jumped at the chance. A phenomenal hostess, Patti, with her husband, Fred, welcomed 25 alumni and their guests to a lovely backyard brunch. At least one member of every decade, from the 1940s until the present, represented Bridgewater at this event.



## ALUMNI SERVICES

For more information about the services below, visit [www.bridgew.edu/alumni/alumniservices.cfm](http://www.bridgew.edu/alumni/alumniservices.cfm)

### CREDIT REWARDS

An alumni awards credit card with a picture of Boyden Hall is available to all Bridgewater State University graduates. Current students benefit directly from every purchase because the Bridgewater Alumni Association receives a percentage of all purchases to assist students with scholarships and other academic opportunities. To apply online, click on the alumni services link listed above. For information, contact Candace Maguire, director of alumni and development programs, at [cmaguire@bridgew.edu](mailto:cmaguire@bridgew.edu).

### INSURANCE PROGRAM

The Bridgewater Alumni Association offers discounted car, home and recreational vehicle insurance. To learn more about this program, visit the alumni services link listed above.

### WEB SITE AND ONLINE COMMUNITY

Visit the Bridgewater Alumni Association's Web site at [www.bridgew.edu/alumni](http://www.bridgew.edu/alumni) to learn more about alumni events and services. To join the online community, use the constituent identification number printed on your magazine mailing label. For more information about registering, e-mail Michelle Slavick in the Office of Alumni Relations at [mslavick@bridgew.edu](mailto:mslavick@bridgew.edu).

# Bridgewater Alumni Association presents annual major awards



**Dr. George A. Weygand Award  
for Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association**  
**MICHEAL LOMBARDO, '62**

In 1965, Mr. Lombardo was hired to teach history at Brockton High School, where he remained for 35 years until his retirement. Previously, he taught sixth and seventh grade in East Bridgewater. Mr. Lombardo has received numerous fellowships, including to the New England Studies Institute at Dartmouth College, which sparked his interest in local history. In 1986, he received the Hay-Fulbright Fellowship for the Study of Italian History and Culture at the University for Foreign Students in Perugia, Italy. Mr. Lombardo was instrumental in establishing the Jordan Fiore Fund for Social Justice, named for his beloved professor of history at Bridgewater, and he sits on the selection committee. In 2004, he was elected to the Bridgewater Alumni Association Board of Directors, where one of his first acts was to propose that the BAA establish graduate-level scholarships. Today, five \$1,000 scholarships are awarded annually to graduate students. He resides in Brockton with his wife, Barbara, '62.



**Dr. Adrian Tinsley Award  
for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts**  
**MADLYN-ANN CRAWFORD WOOLWICH, '54**

Ms. Woolwich is a Master Pastelist, Pastel Society of America, a signature member and former national vice president of Knickerbocker Artists USA. Strongly influenced by the French Impressionists, her impressionist-oriented landscapes, flowers, gardens and still life work can be seen in numerous galleries, including locally, the Rockport Art Association. In 1993, Ms. Woolwich's first book, *Pastel Interpretations*, was published, followed by her second book, *The Art of Pastel Portraiture* in 1996. In addition to her own publications, she has been included in many books as the feature artist and writes for *The Artist's Magazine* and *The Pastel Journal*. She resides in Long Beach, NJ, with her husband, Joseph. They are the parents of three daughters, Kimberly, Stephanie and Allison.



**Dr. Adrian Rondileau Award  
for Professional Achievement and Community Service**  
**BARBARA MATTINSON NAGLE, '61**

After years of teaching in Weymouth and Marshfield, Ms. Nagle became a Title I tutor, helping children develop strategies to overcome learning disabilities. As a professional scrimshander, Ms. Nagle's designs have been distributed and sold throughout the world, and she serves as a scrimshaw instructor for Marshfield's Community School. Trained as a Reiki master, Ms. Nagle volunteered for Beacon Hospice where she developed a new concept for hospice called "Chart-A-Life." This program is designed to help patients, families and caregivers through words, pictures and symbols to create a visual representation of a patient's life. It has become recognized as being especially helpful to Alzheimer's patients. Ms. Nagle and her husband, Walt, '61, G'65, serve on the Class of 1961 Reunion Committee. They live in Bourne and are the parents of Kristen and Paul, and the grandparents of Melinda, Katherine, Keira and Craig.



**Nicholas P. Tillinghast Award  
for Achievement in the Field of Education**  
**ROBERT GAY, '74, G'76**

Before becoming North Attleboro High School's principal in 2001, Mr. Gay taught history at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School from 1974-1988, where he became principal in 1995. A wrestling coach as well, he was honored as Sectional Coach of the Year in 1988, 1995 and 1996, and named Division

II Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1995 by *The Boston Globe*. Mr. Gay's dedication to the field of education is evident by his involvement in numerous professional associations, and he was named Massachusetts High School Principal of the Year for 2005-2006 by the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association. He has coached Little League Baseball and Pop Warner Football in Raynham, is active at St. John the Evangelist Church and has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America since his youth. Mr. Gay lives in Attleboro with his wife, Linda, '75, G'78, and their children Kristin and Kevin.



**Martha D. Jones Award  
for Outstanding Dedication to Students**  
**DIANE BELL**

Ms. Bell has been the director of the Community Service Center at Bridgewater since 2004 and has inspired students, faculty, staff and alumni to become involved in their communities. She came from Atlanta where she spent six years as manager of community relations for the Atlanta Braves. Prior to that, she spent 11 years in the automobile industry working for Toyota and Chrysler, and worked for the Connecticut State Lemon Law program in Hartford. Ms. Bell oversees all the signature programs offered by the Community Service Center and works closely with faculty who teach service-learning courses. She is responsible for organizing and implementing daylong student service programs and weeklong alternative winter and spring break trips across the country, and for developing and strengthening partnerships with community organizations in Southeastern Massachusetts and beyond.



**Dr. Catherine E. Comeau Award  
for Outstanding Leadership and Professional Achievement**  
**HERNANI "ERNIE" BRANCO, '79**

Mr. Branco has had a distinguished career as a teacher, counselor, coach and administrator in the Brockton public schools. After serving as an assistant headmaster at Brockton High School, he was named principal of the Brockton Champion Alternative High School, a position he still holds. Well known in the region for his success as a soccer coach, he was head men's coach at Stonehill College from 1984-1998, leading the school to three Northeast-10 championships; coached youth soccer in Norton and Brockton and high school soccer in Weymouth; and directed soccer camps in the area for more than 30 years. A standout athlete at Bridgewater, Mr. Branco lettered in football and soccer, and excelled as a clutch kicker for the New England Football League Middleboro Cobras. He was the New England Revolution Referee Liaison with the MLS, World Cups and all international games at Gillette Stadium for the USSF and FIFA. In 1985, he was named New England Division II College Coach of the Year and has been inducted into both the Stonehill College and New England Soccer Halls of Fame. He resides in Norton with his wife, Jennifer, '86, and their daughters, Tiffany and Morgan.



**Dr. Marilyn White Barry Graduate Alumni Award**  
**NANCY CLARK, G'87**

Director of the Children's Center at Bridgewater since 1991, Ms. Clark has worked in the field of early childhood education as a teacher and administrator in a variety of preschool settings for the past 37 years. At the Children's Center, she oversees care and education for preschool-aged children. The center also serves as a training site and research facility for numerous academic departments and been the care provider for many children of Bridgewater students and employees for the past 20 years. Ms. Clark lives in Duxbury with her husband, George Ekstrom, and is active in many local and national early childhood organizations.



**Senior Master Sgt. Lana Lue (left) and Jeanne Oliver Foster, '77, (right), celebrate with Master Sgt. Barbara Ann Jackson during her retirement ceremony.**

**Master Sgt. Barbara Jackson  
retires from Air Force  
with distinction**

BY JEANNE OLIVER FOSTER, '77

**Barbara Ann Jackson, '80,** celebrated her retirement ceremony from the United States Air Force Reserves in Chicopee. She served for 27 years as a Munitions Supply Specialist under three U.S. Generals. Her tour of duty included Operation Desert Storm, during which she was assigned to Andover Air Force Base.

She has traveled extensively throughout Europe and North and South America.

Ms. Jackson is a graduate of Boston Latin High School and Bridgewater State College, where she was a special education major. She has been a special needs teacher in the Boston public schools for 30 years, working for most of her career in a learning/adaptive behavior classroom setting. Ms. Jackson is a special needs kindergarten-first grade teacher at the Tynan School in South Boston.

She earned two master's degrees: one in educational leadership from Bridgewater, through which she earned certification as a principal, and a second in communications/media studies from Fitchburg State College.

A founding member of Bridgewater's Afro-American Alumni Association, Ms. Jackson has supported the college's Hall of Black Achievement, as well as the Career Advisory Network and other programs for minority students on campus. ■



## CAREER SERVICES

The Office of Career Services has several programs in which alumni can participate that provide experience and support to Bridgewater students.

### CAREERLINK

Post jobs and internship opportunities on CareerLink, an easy-to-use system that provides access to Bridgewater students and alumni.

### ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM

Share your experience with Bridgewater students and other alumni through this online mentoring program.

### EMPLOYER-IN-RESIDENCE

Spend five to 10 hours a month improving the visibility of your company on campus while offering students critiques of resumes and cover letters, as well as workshops.

### WORK 'N' SERVE EXPO

This annual fair highlights regional employers that are offering internships, community service and full-time, professional jobs.

For information regarding any of the above programs, call career services at 508.531.1328 or visit [www.bridgew.edu/careerservices](http://www.bridgew.edu/careerservices).

# ClassNotes

## 1954

**Robert Barrows** has written a fourth book, *WWII As We Remember It*, which is an international perspective of the war as remembered by 35 people from America, Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

*Summer Spies*, a children's adventure-mystery novel, was written by **Nancy Bestul**. The story takes place in 1943 on Martha's Vineyard where she spent time as a young girl with her family. Nancy resides in Minnesota with her husband, and spends winters in St. Petersburg, FL.

## 1956

**Alice O'Neil** was recognized by the American Cancer Society as co-chair of the annual Sails of Hope Spinnaker Gala, which raises money for training, research and programs.

## 1958

**Glendon McAlister** and his wife celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last November.

## 1959

**Noreen Kilbridge** and her husband, Paul, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in June 2009.

## 1970

**Bob Burwood, '66, G'70**, retired as a physics instructor at Estrella Mountain Community College in Avondale, AZ. He was a teacher, coach and administrator in Hull for 26 years and was a member of the adjunct faculty at Bunker Hill Community College. After earning a PhD from Boston College in 1992, he and his family moved to Arizona where he was a director of student assessment and an assistant superintendent to teaching at Estrella Mountain. He lives in Goodyear, AZ, with his wife, Susan.

## 1977

**Paul MacMillan** is superintendent of School Administrative Unit 35, which includes the Lisbon, Landaff, Lafayette and Profile, NH, school districts.

## 1979

**Margaret "Peg" Holzemer** directed Arts From the Heart's first full-length play, *The Obraz ("The Image")* in Middleboro in January.

## 1980

**Joanne Manson** is a physician assistant, specializing in cardiology at the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, NH.

**Roger Whidden** self-published his first book, *Master Roger and the Karate Kids*. He has been teaching martial arts for 35 years and owns Whidden's School of Fitness, Inc., in Marshfield.

## 1981

**Craig Kesselheim, G'81**, was nominated to the board of the Maine School of Science and Math.

## 1982

**Karyl Benoit** earned a national certification as a cancer exercise specialist from the Cancer Exercise Training Institute in Oregon.

## 1985

**Susan McCarthy** was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Neponset Valley Philharmonic Orchestra.

## 1990

**Stephen Reardon** was promoted by the Manchester Police Department.

## 1992

**Dennis Braun** is director of continuing and career education at Assumption College in Worcester.

## It's all in the family for mother, '83, and son, '88, Roberta and Paul Hobaica

BY CHELSEA BEDDARD, '10

**Dr. Paul Hobaica, '88**, shared the graduation spotlight with his mom, Roberta Hobaica, '83, who graduated from Bridgewater the same year he graduated from high school. Fast forward a few years; Dr. Hobaica followed in his mother's footsteps and graduated from Bridgewater in 1988. The common denominator for both their journeys – focus, hard work, obstacles overcome and good old-fashioned stick-to-it-tive-ness.

For Ms. Hobaica, working full time as a labor delivery nurse and raising four teenage children would have been considered more than a full plate for most women. But Ms. Hobaica tested the limits – and won the battle – when she managed to earn her degree in sociology while already working two full-time jobs as a mother and nurse.

"While I was finishing my degree, I was working a 32-hour week from 7 AM to 3 PM at Goddard Hospital," said Ms. Hobaica. "Then I raced to Bridgewater for two evening classes, the second getting out at 10:30."

Dr. Hobaica's journey through college was equally challenging: full-time college, full-time job in the family pool business and evening hours as an EMT with the West Bridgewater Fire Department. He admitted the demands on his time were great, but he was driven to succeed.

"I knew Bridgewater offered a 100 percent excellent education," he said. "I wanted to be a doctor, but it's hard to get into medical school unless you attend an Ivy League school. Bridgewater isn't known for putting a lot of people into the medical profession. But, the reality is, you can get into anywhere, you just have to work hard and know how to do it."

History shows that Dr. Hobaica did both. He attended St. George's University followed by an internship and residency at UMass Medical Center. Today, he is a doctor of internal medicine in Naples, FL.



**Roberta Hobaica, '83 (above, left); Paul Hobaica, 88, with his wife MiaLea and their children, Paul Joseph and Abby Rose**

Among his many professional pursuits, he runs an executive health department for a hospital system; owns his own independent practice; and designed and operates a custom health care program for first responders, offering routine physicals, acute and primary care. He is also the official doctor for the Collier County Fire Districts. His latest venture: Swat Academy of Fitness, which is exactly as it sounds – boot camp for fitness.

Ms. Hobaica shares her son's passion for medicine. After she graduated from Bridgewater, she ran the childbirth program at Goddard for seven years. She was then appointed consultant for high-risk pregnancies.

"Because I had the background in nursing and the degree from Bridgewater, I was able to go places I might not have gone as far as jobs and promotions are concerned," she said. One of those places was promotion to nurse manager/director of OBGYN at the hospital.

Although she retired 12 years ago, Ms. Hobaica's enthusiasm for caring for others has not diminished. "I was with all my children in the births of their children," said Ms. Hobaica. And that includes Dr. Hobaica and his wife MiaLea's two children, Abby Rose, 7, and Paul Joseph, 5.

The moral of the story: Dream big. ■

*(Karen Booth contributed to this article.)*



# Motivated to give

BY KAREN A. BOOTH

**The year was 1974.** Nancy Kane wrapped up her college career and graduated from Bridgewater with a BA in French. Proud of her achievement, but not interested in teaching and unclear as to her ultimate goal, Ms. Kane sought advice from her language professor, Dr. Lenore Padula.

"Dr. Padula gave me a list of 'non-teaching language jobs' and said, 'Start writing letters'." So she did. And thanks to the encouragement of her mentor, Ms. Kane landed a position in the Department of Defense as a library technician and worked her way up through the ranks.

"It's hard to pin down what impressed me most about Dr. Padula. She was certainly very direct – you always knew where you stood with her. This quality could take one aback at first, but it made her a very loyal and thoughtful friend, always willing to help."

After graduating from Bridgewater, Ms. Kane completed the first of three summers at the French School at Middlebury College where Dr. Padula worked during her summer break as bilingual secretary to the director of the Italian School; Ms. Kane completed her MA at Middlebury in 1983.

Today, years later, Ms. Kane still remembers the confidence Dr. Padula placed in her abilities.

"Thanks to her, I have had a good federal career," said Ms. Kane. "She taught me to take the initiative and grab the opportunities my agency offered for long-term, full-time training." As a result, Ms. Kane earned a Master in Library Science from Catholic University of America.

Ms. Kane subscribes to the premise many live by – say thanks by paying it forward. To that end, she has made a donation to Bridgewater in honor of Dr. Padula. "I got a wonderful education at Bridgewater," said Ms. Kane. "Giving back helps others to access a good education, too. And an educated world is a better world." ■

## 1993

**Nicholas Zeoli** was appointed lieutenant for the Rockland Police Department.

## 1994

**Ellen Walsh, G'94**, was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Archbishop Williams High School in Braintree.

## 1995

**Jennifer McGilvray, G'95**, is on the sales team of Jack Conway's Scituate Harbor office.

## 1996

**Sheryl Widberg** celebrated her third year in business as a wedding photographer, [www.sherylwidberg.com](http://www.sherylwidberg.com).

## 1997

**Vincent Hayward** is dean of students for grades seven through 12 at Holbrook Junior/Senior High School.

## 1999

**Susan McKenna** is coordinator of special projects at Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board.

## 2005

**Christopher Hoffman** was selected to appear at the International Juried Art Show at Rogue Space, New York City, with his painting *Ruby*.

**Joshua Smith** and his fiancée, Mary Blais, were the winners of the Country 102.5 WKLB's Dream Wedding.

## 2006

**Yvonne Garrell** is a third- and fourth-grade teacher at the Samuel Fuller School in Middleboro.

**Krystal Love** is the youth associate for the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board.

**Ryan Mitchell** is a teacher at Keith Middle School in New Bedford.

## 2007

**Joseph Pacheco** announced that he will seek re-election as a Raynham selectman. He was first elected while a junior at Bridgewater in 2007, becoming the town's youngest selectman at age 21.

**Robert Vandenabeele, G'07**, wrote *Mass Hoops: The Best Of The Bay State's High School Basketball History*.

**Tarsha Veiga, '06, G'07**, is a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching the children of Lesotho, South Africa.

## 2008

**Tanya Duff, G'08**, is a special education teacher for students in kindergarten and first grade in Wareham.

**Jonathon Hughes, '05, G'08**, is a licensed certified public accountant in Massachusetts.

**Phillip O'Brien** is a print services specialist at Bay Copy in Rockland.

**Steven Sharek** has been re-elected chairperson of the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association's Legislative Committee.

**Anna Takahama** is studying for her master's in college and student development at Northeastern University, where she is also employed in the School of Law admission's office.

**Bethany Walecka** is an intern at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

## 2009

**Tiffany Hampton** has been designated a certified athletic trainer.

**Kathleen Lynch** provides membership services to the region's business members at Metro South Chamber of Commerce, where she is employed.

# InMemoriam

## DR. OWEN B. KIERNAN, '35 was state commissioner of education

BY DAVID K. WILSON, '71

**Dr. Owen B. Kiernan, '35**, who, as *The Boston Globe* noted in his obituary, "rose from childhood poverty in Randolph to lead several school districts and become Massachusetts commissioner of education from 1957 to 1969," died Jan. 5. He was 95.

Several years ago, in an interview at his Centerville home, Dr. Kiernan talked about his personal and professional life, and happily shared reminiscences for an article that was published later in this magazine.

"I grew up in Randolph, where my brother and I were raised by my father after the death of my mother when I was only 7," he said. Even though there was very little money in his household, his father made a determined effort to make sure his sons were diligent in their studies.

As high school graduation neared in 1931, the Depression was in full swing. "Nevertheless, my father didn't want me to even consider working in a factory, and I recall asking him one time if he could help get me a summer job in the shoe factory in Brockton where he worked. He gave me a strong 'thumbs down' on that idea. 'You'll never enter a shoe factory. You're going into education, and you're going to stay there,' he said."

Dr. Kiernan heard about Bridgewater State Teachers College through friends who were attending. "They spoke so highly of the college that I became interested in applying. The cost was right – only \$75 a semester – and I knew I'd get a superb education. I entered in September 1931."

To earn money, he worked part-time all through college, "mostly playing the piano at night in various places."

At Bridgewater, Dr. Kiernan met the love of his life.

"Miss (S. Elizabeth) Pope, the dean of women, was a good friend of mine ... In fact, my future wife, Esther Thorley, '36, was working for Miss Pope the very first time I ever met her. I was president of the Men's Club at the time, and Esther was Miss Pope's student secretary. I went over to the office one day to introduce myself to Miss Pope, and that's when Esther caught my eye. I was smitten from the first moment I saw her."

Dr. and the future Mrs. Kiernan became engaged in 1937. "Miss Pope told me, 'Owen, if you went around the world, you couldn't possibly find a better lady than Esther Thorley.'" They married on July 13, 1940, Esther's birthday.



**Dr. Owen B. Kiernan, '35, was inducted into Bridgewater's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989. He had been a stand-out baseball and basketball star at Bridgewater from 1931-1935.**

Dr. Kiernan's voice turned soft as he continued, "We went on to raise three beautiful and wonderful children, two daughters and a son, and we spent nearly 60 glorious years together as husband and wife." Esther preceded him in death in 1997.

He began his teaching career in Sandwich, and he was still in his 20s when he became a school principal. While studying for advanced degrees – a master's in education from Boston University and a doctorate from Harvard – his career continued its uphill climb: from 1944-1951, he was superintendent in the Wayland-Sudbury-Sherborn District and he led Milton schools from 1951-1957.

An appointment as the state's commissioner of education came next, followed by service in Washington, where he was an education adviser to seven U.S. presidents. In 1985, he received the National Recognition Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, PA, in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the field of education.

He is survived by two daughters, Joan Kiernan Lange of Westbury, NY, and Nancy Kiernan Case of Denver, CO; a son, John A. Kiernan of Milton; 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. ■





**Mary Mahan, '60, poses with Red Sox outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury at City of Palms Park in Ft. Myers, FL.**



**Paul and Betty (Sawin) Callahan, both of the Class of 1963, hosted an alumni reception at their home in The Villages, FL, on March 4.**



**Anthony Peter Butterfield, son of Kathleen Nugent Butterfield, '05, and Alexander Butterfield, was born Feb. 13.**

## **BIRTHS** *Congratulations to Bridgewater alumni on these new additions:*

To **Heather Brightman, '92**, a son, Derek Brian Brightman, on June 19, 2009  
 To Tina Counihan and **Bob Counihan, '97**, a daughter, Julia Grace, on July 29, 2009  
 To **Tracey Sunderland DeLano, '97**, and **Al DeLano, '95**, a daughter, Casey Caroline DeLano, on Dec. 2, 2009. She joins big sister, Callie and big brother, Carter.  
 To **Kassie Merrill and Jason Merrill, '00**, a son, Beau Samuel Merrill, on Aug. 3, 2009  
 To **Kathleen Nugent Butterfield, '05**, and Alexander Butterfield, a son, Anthony Peter, on Feb. 13, 2010

## **MARRIAGES** *The university celebrates the weddings of the following alumni:*

Jennifer Bunt to **John Adams, '88**, on June 27, 2009  
 Jennifer Pires, '94, to Peter Levasseur on Oct. 3, 2009  
 Rachel Brutti, '99, to Corey Catalfamo on June 6, 2009  
 Janelle Long, '99, to Matthew Hebert on Aug. 29, 2009  
 Heather Oberg to **Kenneth Brown, '01**, on April 18, 2009  
 Sharon Gately, '01, to Adam LaPlante on June 27, 2009  
 Marissa Holt, '01, to Wesley Davis on Sept. 6, 2009  
 Kathleen Collins to **Glenn Maher, '01**, on Aug. 14, 2009  
 Jill Gaudreau, '02, to Christopher Heroux on Feb. 15, 2009  
 Alexis Macmillan, '02, to Kevin Oberacker on July 11, 2009  
 Heidi Baird, '03, to Christopher Wilkins on Aug. 25, 2009  
 Megan Gaudette, '03, to Nicholas Howie on July 18, 2009  
 Katie Dwyer to **Patrick McGrath, '03**, on Sept. 26, 2009  
 Kimberly Mello, '03, to **Keith Antifonario, '99**, on Sept. 5, 2009  
 Nicole Bisanti, '04, to **Frank Meroney, '04**, on Oct. 24, 2009  
 Jennifer D'Ercole, '05, to Jason Walker on July 3, 2009  
 Lindi Donelson, '05, to Nathaniel Russell on Sept. 26, 2009  
 Diana Faria, '05, to Bob Rodrigues on Sept. 5, 2009  
 Kristen McCarthy to **Jason Laviolette, '05**, on June 27, 2009  
 Danielle Hartigan to **Shaun O'Leary, '05**, on June 5, 2009  
 Corree Dibble, G'05, to Gregory Daniels on July 18, 2009  
 Stacey Duarte, '06, to Keith Riquinha on May 16, 2009  
 Karyn Howland, '06, to Bradford Barker on May 30, 2009  
 Shannon Kelley, '06, to Daniel Jones on July 11, 2009  
 Felicia Ladino to **Jude Morrow, '06**, on May 30, 2009  
 Jill Anderson, '07, to Michael Rao on Nov. 9, 2009  
 Lindsey Hutchinson, '07, to Aaron Pickering on Sept. 6, 2009  
 Cassie Reis, G'07, to Eric Correia on July 11, 2009  
 Brandi Kauker, '08, to Vincent Forte on Sept. 19, 2009  
 Michelle Joyce to **Paul Fitzgerald, '09**, on July 11, 2009  
 Laura Turbide, '09, to Andrew Brophy on July 12, 2009  
 Elise Goyette, G'09, to Patrick Linane on July 11, 2009

**IN MEMORIAM** *Bridgewater is saddened by the deaths of the following alumni and extends condolences to their loved ones:*

Ruth Gould Thacher, '34, on Jan. 19, 2010  
Mary Murray Nugent, '36, on Jan. 14, 2010  
Paul Olenick, '36, on Sept. 28, 2009  
Edith James Honeth, '37, on Jan. 11, 2010  
Marion Lupica, '37, on Dec. 26, 2009  
Mary Neonilla Barrett, '39, on Oct. 2, 2009  
Annette Breen Dowd, '40, on Jan. 21, 2010  
Lois Littlejohn Erickson, '40, on Oct. 22, 2009  
Mildred Wheeler Flanders, '40, on Oct. 12, 2009  
Ruth Kimball, '40, on Dec. 16, 2009  
Constance Osberg Quigley, '40, on Nov. 22, 2009  
Phyllis Ziemian, '40, on Sept. 24, 2009  
Mary Brigida Guidoboni, '41, on Aug. 16, 2009  
Mary Drummey Merlet, '41, on Dec. 23, 2009  
Gloria Bernstein Zeman, '42, on Sept. 19, 2009  
Eleanor Mattos Enos, '43, on Feb. 16, 2009  
Virginia Boarn Alden, '44, on Dec. 18, 2009  
Eleanor Hippler Wilson, '44, on Feb. 9, 2010  
Phyllis Jones Ryder, '48, on Jan. 30, 2010  
J. Kenneth Downey, '49, on Jan. 17, 2010  
Leah Boutin, '50, on Sept. 23, 2009  
J. Kenneth Taylor, '51, on Sept. 6, 2009  
Barbara Donahue Mace, '52, on Aug. 23, 2009  
James O'Connor, '56, on Oct. 13, 2009  
Jacintho Fernandes, G'57, on Feb. 16, 2010  
John Usher, G'57, on Sept. 14, 2009  
Marcel Richard, '58, G'61, on March 19, 2010  
Mario DiMarzo, G'58, on Nov. 13, 2009  
Joanne Bergstrom Fullerton, '60, G'63, on Feb. 18, 2010  
John Kearney, G'60, on Feb. 22, 2010  
Daniel Harrington, G'62, February 2010  
Mary Manning Pepin, G'62, on Sept. 29, 2009  
John Metcalf, '64, on Jan. 21, 2010  
Betsy Bushnell, '65, on Oct. 22, 2009  
Anthony Gulinello, G'65, on Oct. 14, 2009  
Robert Carlson, G'66, on Oct. 26, 2009

Patricia Moorman, G'68, on Feb. 13, 2010  
Louis Sault, G'68, on Jan. 10, 2010  
Susan Nygren Flanagan, '69, on Jan. 8, 2010  
Ronald McKinnon, '69, on Jan. 22, 2010  
Paul Moore, '69, on Dec. 24, 2009  
Walter Tomkiewicz, G'69, on Oct. 3, 2009  
Ronald Bourassa, '70, on Dec. 16, 2009  
Jean Driscoll McFadyen, '70, on Jan. 15, 2010  
Edwina Dyer Wood, '70, on Sept. 12, 2009  
Jayne McNeil Phillips, G'71, on Oct. 29, 2009  
Paul Chargin, '72, on March 4, 2010  
Diane Cobb McAuley, '72, on Nov. 1, 2009  
David Fox, '74, on Dec. 10, 2009  
Janice Pieri O'Shaughnessey, '74, on Dec. 3, 2009  
David Murphy, G'74, on Oct. 20, 2009  
James Macura, '75, on Dec. 30, 2009  
Charles Ennis, '76, on Nov. 6, 2009  
John Grazewski, '76, on Nov. 23, 2009  
Karen Hantzes O'Neil, '77, on Dec. 19, 2009  
Charles Raimo, '77, on Oct. 27, 2009  
Joseph McNulty, '78, on Dec. 19, 2009  
Ellen Erdwein, '79, on Oct. 10, 2009  
Janice Semple, G'79, on Jan. 25, 2010  
Walter Thomas, '80, on Dec. 30, 2009  
Linda Rogers Kerwin, G'82, on Dec. 15, 2009  
Francis Fagan, '83, on Dec. 7, 2009  
Harry Fernandes, G'84, on Sept. 26, 2009  
Marilyn Jeloran Ogle, '85, on March 1, 2010  
Kenneth Wood, '86, on Nov. 11, 2009  
Marguerite Simons, G'86, on Sept. 11, 2009  
Sandra Lacivita, '91, on Feb. 14, 2010  
Christopher Champagne, '97, on Feb. 22, 2010  
Patricia Burns, G'98, on Aug. 7, 2009  
Lauren Frechette, '08, on Nov. 26, 2009  
Katie Fleet, '09, on Feb. 25, 2010





## Hand Painted

**Kaelyn Parks, 4, of Bridgewater, proudly shows off the artwork she created at the university's Children's Center, which provides daycare for up to 30 children.**

**As part of its mission, the center serves as a model early childhood program available for academic, curricular and research purposes, including student training, field work, observation and data collection.**



## A CAMPAIGN FOR BRIDGEWATER



*The Three Pillars of*  
**EXCELLENCE**  
EQUITY • ENGAGEMENT • ENRICHMENT

*The Three Pillars of Excellence  
is a multiyear, comprehensive  
fundraising campaign to ensure  
Bridgewater has the resources to  
fulfill its promise of excellence  
for this and future generations.  
Your contribution to support  
student scholarships at  
Bridgewater State University  
will make a difference.*

Visit our secure Web site, [www.bridgew.edu/give](http://www.bridgew.edu/give),  
to make a gift online or to learn more about  
ways to support Bridgewater State University.

## Fulfill the promise of tomorrow Support scholarship today in one of these three ways ...

### Named Annual Scholarship Award

**Do you want to have a profound impact on the life of a deserving student?**

**Do you want to help change the world – one student at a time?**

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to **establish a scholarship award in your name** – or the name of someone special. Simply make a gift of \$1,000 to the Annual Fund before June 30, 2011. You'll be informed of who your recipient is and learn firsthand how your gift made the difference.

Use the enclosed envelope, and be sure to check "Annual Fund" and write "Named Scholarship Award" followed by the name of your scholarship.

### Annual Fund

Your impact is instant and amplified when you give a gift of any size to the Annual Fund, which among many other things supports scholarships. Monies are distributed in the fiscal year they are received. Use the enclosed envelope or visit [bridgew.edu/give](http://bridgew.edu/give) to make a secure gift online.

For additional information on the Annual Fund or the Annual Named Scholarship Award, contact **Elizabeth Dubuque** at [Elizabeth.Dubuque@bridgew.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Dubuque@bridgew.edu) or call 508.531.2100.

### Named Endowed Scholarship Fund

Provide sustainable scholarship support, name your fund and create an enduring legacy with an outright gift of \$25,000, a pledge payable over five years, or a bequest. Contact **Christine Pellegri** at [Christine.Pellegri@bridgew.edu](mailto:Christine.Pellegri@bridgew.edu) or call 508.531.1288 to learn more.





BRIDGEWATER

STATE UNIVERSITY

Davis Alumni Center  
25 Park Terrace  
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Burlington, VT  
Permit No. 341

# LookingBack

The institution known as Bridgewater State College for more than four decades will kick off the new academic year as Bridgewater State University, its sixth title since its founding in 1840. And, as the name has changed, so to have offerings of majors, minors, and degrees as the institution has evolved into a regional resource ever more prepared to fulfill its mission of providing residents with affordable and accessible higher education, and using its resources to support and advance the economic and cultural life of the region and the commonwealth.

**1840 to 1846**

Bridgewater Normal School

**1846 to 1932**

Bridgewater State Normal School

**1932 to 1960**

Bridgewater State Teachers College

**1960 to 1965**

State College at Bridgewater

**1965 to JULY 2010**

Bridgewater State College

